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REDMON

on the

Edge

of the Prairie

Compiled by  
THE REDMON HISTORICAL COMMITTEE  
1974

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## Dedicated to



Dr. William Shields Jones

Through his varied and unselfishly-given community services, Dr. Jones has gained recognition among all except our youngest generations. For the couples who heard his blessing at their wedding ceremonies, then later when their children were born; for those who remember him as a strict teacher, a bedside friend, or consoling enemy as the case may have been. (those stitches you put in when I was a kid hurt, Doc!) for the ones who have forgotten his comforting words at a loved one's funeral, but recall his kind attention; and still others who helped him deal with the inexperience of driving that first automobile en route to ball games —we dedicate this book to his loving memory.

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I

EARLY HISTORY

OF THE

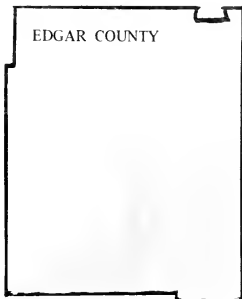
VICINITY

On Following Page -  
PRAIRIE SCENE of REDMON VALLEY



# The Beginning

When Edgar County was formed in 1823, its territory stretched farther north than where Chicago is today. Much of that land was virtually uninhabited, and the vast prairie within its realm remained that way for nearly another quarter of a century. The first inhabitants were mostly from Virginia and Kentucky, but many came later



Map of Edgar County showing approximate areas once covered by prairie and timber (shaded area) in 1820.

from Tennessee, Ohio, and other eastern states. Because these people were used to the hilly, timbered regions of their native land, the prairie, according to the 1905 *Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Edgar County*, was regarded "as a treeless and expansive waste, saturated with water until it was too wet for cultivation."

Besides, the forest provided wood for homes and buildings, fuel for warmth and preparing meals, a shelter from the hot summer sun or cold winter winds. It was also a source of sustenance. Fruits, nuts, and wildlife for meat or skins for clothing were plentiful, and water could be acquired from nearby streams. Therefore, immigration advanced northward and westward throughout the wooded country, reaching at last into the finger-like tracts of timber along the borders of the prairie.

As late as the mid-30's those who lived on the plains, even for a short while, were considered eccentric. At that time it teemed with insects, reptiles, and wolves. By autumn the bluestem and turkey-foot grasses were tall enough to hide a man riding a horse. Yet the sight of it encouraged travelers to write about its beauty.

George Flower wrote of it in 1817 in his *History of the English Settlement*, which he helped establish in Edwards County, Illinois. He said:

*"In the month of April, the surface of the prairie becomes covered with a deli-*



A PRAIRIE FIRE

cious green. It resembles, when viewed at little distance, a smooth carpet or well-shorn lawn. About the first of May the surrounding woods appear clothed in a verdure of a darker hue. As the season advances, the verdure increases in intensity, intermingled with flowers of brilliant hues, . . ."

Throughout the summer months blue pasque flowers, pink shooting stars, yellow rosinweed, scarlet lilies, purple violets, and others bloomed amid the prairie.

When fall came frosts killed the luxurious growth. Then Indians set fire to the dried vegetation—thus controlling the margins of forest and making it easier to corral the panic-stricken, fleeing animals. Sometimes thunderstorms with their swift streaks of lightning sparked the tall grasses and created the same terror as engulfing

flames swept across the land, leaving behind a curtain of blinding smoke and charred bits of grass.

In winter the blusterous, snow-covered plain was bleak and lonely. Only the figure of a deer standing in relief against the horizon, or a distant grove of trees broke the white expanse.

With at least three-fourths of the country around today's village of Redmon enveloped by this sea of grass, need we question further why the area remained unsettled for so many years after the formation of the county?

Edgar County was first divided into five precincts and was governed by a single board of county commissioners, or supervisors. It continued this system until a few years after the Illinois State Legislature authorized township organization. By then the boundaries had been

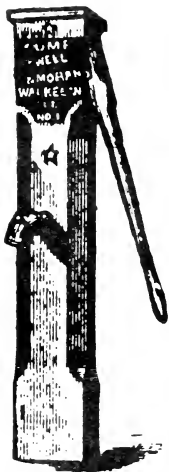


changed. Vermilion County was formed from the northern section of Edgar in 1826, and the southern part (almost the same boundaries as the present Edgar County) was gradually sub-divided as the population increased from five into thirteen precincts. In 1856 these were changed to townships. Among them, two, Embarrass and Pilot Grove, figure prominently in our history of Redmon.

Since it was soon discovered there was already a Pilot Grove Township in the state, the name was changed to Buck in honor of President James "Buck" Buchanan.

Most of today's Embarrass and all of Buck were formerly in Fairfield Precinct. The earliest settlements were in the southeast corner, which was covered with wooded hills and winding streams. The only timber in this region was along Catfish Creek—about one-third the area in Embarrass and around thirty acres in the extreme southwest corner of Buck.

We know from early accounts of Edgar County

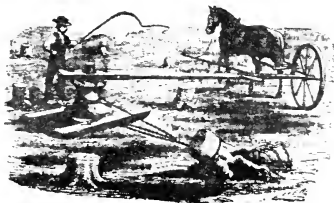


**THE "Star" wood pump, from June 22, 1872, issue of Prairie Farmer.**



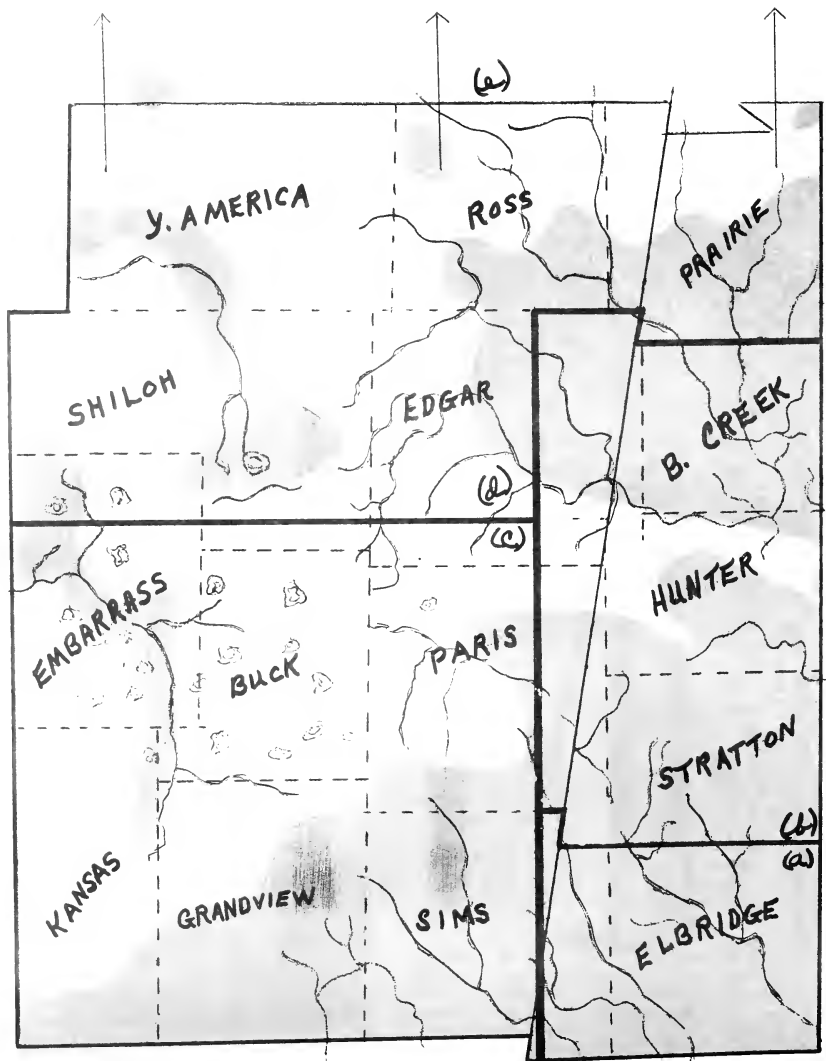
**DEER, in relief**

Supervisor Records there were petitions put forth for roads almost as soon as the first government was organized. Several were "viewed and established" in the beginning over the countryside surrounding Paris, the county seat. The first one to cross Buck and Embarrass Townships was a state road; merely a trace for some years after being surveyed in 1825 by Amos Williams, the county surveyor. This first major road led from "Washington Street in the Town of Springfield. Thence N 80° E. 3 miles to the timber . . ." thus through timber, prairie, and barrens over two forks of the "Sangamo River," several creeks and brooks, and "the East fork of Embarrass River . . ." the records say, past "the mouth of a lane—Thence N 89½° E 78 rods—Thence N 82½° E 94 rods and set 102 mile stake—Thence 2 perches to the West end of Court Street in the Town of Paris."



**T. J. Brown's improved stump extractor, from May 8, 1869, issue of PRAIRIE FARMER.**

In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Jump  
by Mr. and Mrs. Harold J. Jump, and Janice.



EDGAR COUNTY, with boundaries as it is today, showing 4 of the original 5 precincts it contained after organization in 1823. Precincts: a - Pike; b - Wayne; c - Fairfield; d - Carroll, which extended into today's

Vermilion County; and e - Ripley, which extended farther north than where Chicago is now.

## The State Road

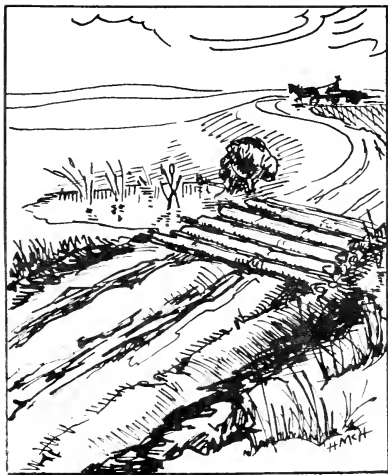
This original Paris and Springfield Road was almost impossible for travelers to follow without getting lost. Although three-foot stakes were set every so often in the prairie they were often hidden by the tall grasses, and the mileposts in the forests were simply singled-out trees with a

blaze cut into the side among hundreds of unmarked ones. Few people, however, had occasion to make the journey between these two villages, so it was more than two years before a safe trail was made by plowing a single furrow through the prairie and cutting a road, as the reports relate, "through the timber from Paris to the fifty one mile tree" (in the region of today's town of Arthur.) For this job a William Whitley was paid \$17.75 in July 1828.

This trail marked the real beginning of settlement in the western part of Edgar County, and we'll hear more about the pioneers who helped build this road in the stories that follow.

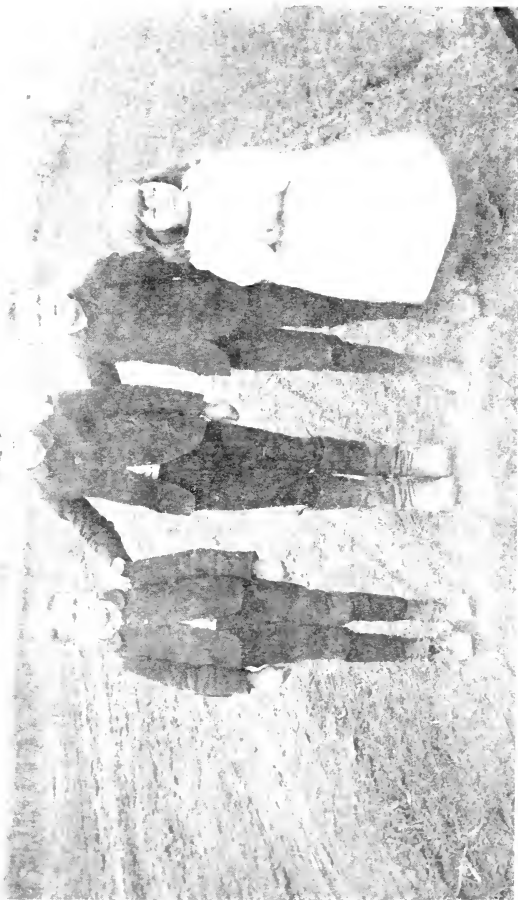
A constant rise in population increased the need for more and better transportation facilities, and a number of items were listed concerning work on roads throughout the county's early history. Thirty road districts had been apportioned by 1836, and, with the well-founded rumor that the state capitol was going to be moved from Vandalia to Springfield, development of this road was imminent.

Nathaniel Wayne, who had settled near the Coles County Line shortly after the Springfield Road was established and then erected a tavern, was appointed commissioner of one of the road districts in this area that year. In June he was asked to "procure" a road scraper for use in his and neighboring districts. The next year, 1837, a \$200 appropriation was set aside to pay for bridges and causeways over creeks and sloughs, and marking the "Springfield Road between Paris and [the] Coles County line." (Much of the money spent on this early road came from



A causeway of timbers over a slough.

In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. Frank I. Daniels and Mr. Dwight Daniels  
by Mrs. Mack Foley, Mrs. Harold Jump, Mrs. James Ewing, and Mrs. Gene Ogden.



The Springfield Road in 1894, west of Redmon. Pictured:  
Ray, Art, Eric and Ethel Trimble.

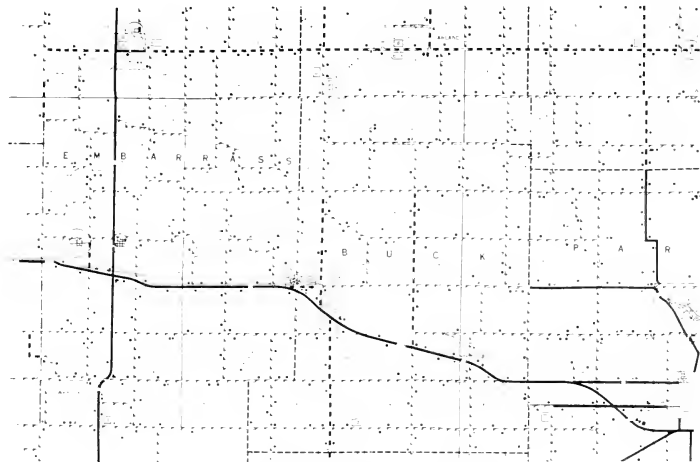
In Memory of Parents, Mr. and Mrs. Aquilla Applegate, and their Children,  
Sarah, Samuel, Ellen, Stephen, Henry, Belle, Elmer, Willis, and Alice  
by Mary Applegate Porter

the county's share of state funds accumulated in the sale of "Saline lands" in Vermilion and Gallatin Counties.)

Notes on costs for road labor and supplies in the mid-1800's are astonishing in this day of inflationary prices and increasing salaries. Then, for many years, the customary fee for labor was a dollar per day. With this in mind, we also gain an idea of the time involved in the work that was done.

Throughout the summer jobs were let for "causewaying and grading" 150-yard sections of the road. William D. Darnall (who supplied many of the facts in LeBaron's 1879 history,) was given \$50, and his brother Daniel, \$49 for their contract. Another segment was done for \$62 by George W. Roberts.

Most right-of-ways were cleared 30 to 40 feet in width, and "planks" of wood were laid across the unavoidable sloughs, providing the rough



A section of the General Highway Map of Edgar County, Illinois, showing Rt. 133 in 1973 (Rockford Map Publishers, Inc., Edgar County Plat) Overlay shows the 1870 route of the Springfield Road.

corduroy stretches of road so reputedly known in that era. In 1839 Bennett Redmon received "75¢ for one tree for road purposes," and John Milburn, "\$1.50 for timber used on road." A wooden scraper was rented from Elexius Milburn for a dollar.

The year before Aaron Darnall was paid \$5 for plowing a furrow on this road leading to Paris and built the first bridge across the "little Embarrass" (Hickory Grove Creek on today's plat, a mile west of Redmon) for \$34. This cost probably included his labor and the lumber used.

The supervisors' accounts fail to explain the inconsistency in the development of the Springfield Road, but, presumably, portions were im-

proved first in the regions of actual need. At any rate, this serves as an example to show the steps taken in making the old highways.

Other roads mentioned at that time in the various districts were Chicago (Rt. 1,) Montezuma (Rt. 36,) Catfish Point (probably the "Ridge Road" to Catfish, the first settlement in the western part of Fairfield,) Bloomfield, Charleston, "Marshall, via Grandview to Wavnes," Terre Haute, Vandalia, and Darwin. From this we also realize the extent of spreading civilization.

Until farmers started erecting fences, roads were laid out on high ground to avoid the sloughs, swags, and ponds and angled toward all points of the compass. Afterward they were

In Memory of Walter S. Jump

by Kathryn B. Jump, wife; and children, J. Robert Jump, Joan J. Helms, Nancy J. Gage, Walter S. Jump II, and nine grandchildren.

April 14, 1918 Buck Township Edgar County, Ill.  
 at a Meeting held at Town House at Ways  
 Station the Following Commissioners of  
 Highways Were Present.

William H. Perkins

Alex. Sneslaker

Charles C. Mattingly

The Following Bills Were Allowed & Paid by  
 Patrol.

\$1.80	to J. Harlan Arnold	Draining Roads
\$8.70	" Albert Waller	Draining Roads
\$9.90	" Fred A. Blair	"
5.00	" Rains E. Lem	Team Work.
\$15.00	" Paul Martin	"
\$12.40	" John Durnal	Draining
\$6.00	" Amy Becker	Household Services
\$15.00	" Charles C. Barr	Draining
\$15.00	" Chas. Gates	"
\$15.00	" Alva Sneslaker	"
\$5.00	" Chas. Fox	"
\$5.50	" Bill Pursant	"
\$9.75	" William Burr	"
\$4.00	" Frank Englum	Shoveling Snow
\$4.00	" Harry Robinson	"
\$7.00	" Cliff Andrews	"
\$4.00	" William Englum	"
\$2.00	" Watter Tol	"
\$11.00	" Alvaro Washington	Draining
\$5.00	" F. Waller	"
\$5.00	" Harry Andrews	"
\$700.00	" Frank C. Otter	Legle Services
\$15.00	" Stewart Kinkade	Legle Services

E. C. Pearson

Town Clerk.

A copy of expenses listed in the 1918 records of Buck Township Highway Commissioners.

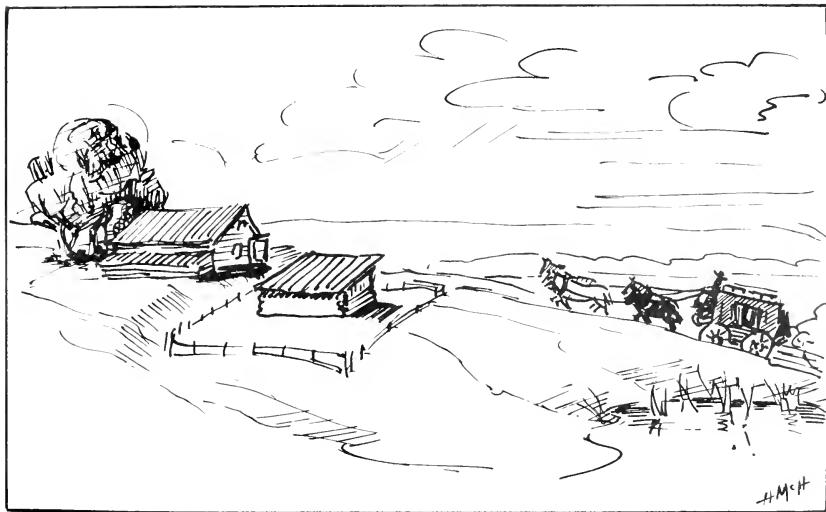


Hickory Grove Creek in flood, early 1900's.

mainly built to correspond with section lines. As more people came to the prairie regions, more roads were viewed, marked, improved, and numerous petitions were made for relocations in existing trails. Little change was made in this

system for several years. Graveled roads didn't come into existence until after 1900. And then, for another length of time, only the main routes were rocked.

None of today's younger people can realize the



Artist's idea of the old stagecoach inn on the "Ridge Road" north of town.

In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. Willis O. Brinkerhoff  
by grandchildren, Kathryn B. Jump and the late Lee A. Brinkerhoff.

limited circumstances caused by the muddy, or rutted trails of yesteryear, and only our oldest residents remember helping others, often by lantern light at night, out of the miry bogs that dotted this area.

Few now have heard of the inns that topped the ridges between Terre Haute and Springfield when stagecoaches rolled along the roads in the 40's and 50's. Our youngsters have also missed watching the brilliantly colored carnivals that used to pass, then, weeks later, catching a glimpse of elephant tracks in the dusty road-sides. No more can they thrill with anticipation at the distant sound of tambourines, nor hear the lilting songs of wandering gypsy caravans. These memorable incidents no longer occur because of more modern transportation facilities that came along after the depression years.

In a short time the old Springfield Road was turned into a concrete thoroughfare from Lovington (near Decatur) to Paris and became Illinois Rt. 133 as we know it today. The road from Rt. 49 (four miles west of Redmon) to this town was paid for by a state bonding issue. From Redmon to Paris it was constructed through a federal funding program set up in the 1930's to ease the employment situation. This highway was one of

the "farmer market roads," according to Andy Hightower, the Planning Engineer for District 5, Illinois State Highway Office, "which was planned to furnish better transportation for farmers and, in turn, more opportunities for farm laborers."

The first section (in this particular area) from Rt. 49 to a point just west of the Hickory Grove Creek Bridge was poured in 1935-36. Two years later a second segment was added, but stopped a hundred yards or so inside Redmon's town limits. Traffic was slow on this stretch of pavement until the road's completion, so it served as an excellent skating rink for local teen-agers for a few summers.

When the last portion was completed into the southwest corner of Paris in 1941, a curve de-toured around our village, cutting off the jog in the old road east of Redmon.

In 1971 this same section of Rt. 133 was widened and resurfaced with asphalt. The cost for 150 yards of road improvement this time was \$4,945. In addition the Hickory Grove Creek Bridge was rebuilt. Gene Wakefield, Engineering Technician for District 5, said, "This included an all new structure except for the bridge piers which were widened to accommodate a new super structure and floor." Total cost - \$158,793.

Considerably different from the road expense of a hundred forty years ago!



The bridge built over Hickory Grove Creek in 1971 on Route 133.



## Embarrass Township

When Mr. Williams staked out the Springfield Road, the land between that town and Paris was virtually unoccupied. The Kickapoo Indians often hunted these regions and occasionally camped in the Embarrass area (southeast of the present Embarrass Church,) but most of them lived in wigwams along Big Creek southwest of Paris. once in awhile they'd take a young calf or hog that was foraging in the woods, but otherwise rarely bothered white people in this part of the country and after the Black Hawk War in 1832 fled the territory.

White pioneers arrived in today's Embarrass Township shortly after the Springfield Road was viewed. LeBaron's 1879 *The History of Edgar County, Illinois* states that John Crist was presumably the first; a fact this author was unable to prove. He reportedly lived here only a year or two because he felt cramped for space when others moved into the region in 1828.

These enroaching settlers were the families of Benjamin and Nathaniel Wayne (no relation to each other,) three Dohhetees (Daughetees) brothers, and Thomas Darnall. Thomas Dohhetees supposedly caught a "monster catfish" in a nearby stream, thus the name of Catfish Creek for this branch of the Embarrass River. (The township was named for the river because its tributaries are the only source of drainage here.) Thomas settled in the area now known as Garland in Shiloh Township, actually in old Carroll Precinct.

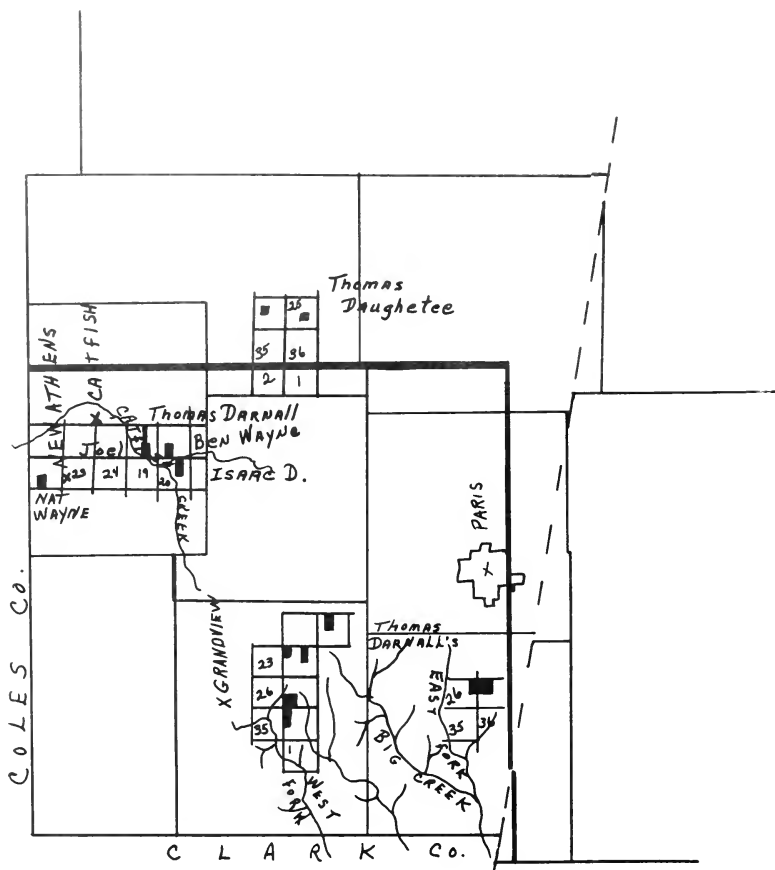
Nathaniel Wayne was a cobbler and also had the first tavern, or inn in Paris. Before moving here, he turned that inn over to his son, then

built a two-story tavern along the new road where he made his home in the western part of Fairfield. During the 40's when stages were popular, the place was a stagecoach stop.

The other Wayne was a noted hunter and liked to boast about his skill with a gun. He also claimed to have pulled as many as three bushels of human teeth with a pair of "pullicans" in his lifetime. Three of his daughters are said to have married the three Dohhetees brothers, and Thomas Darnall's wife, Rachel Daughetee, may have been a sister to them. No doubt as a result, the two youngest, Isaac and Joel Dohhetees, lo-



SARAH W. DARNALL  
15th child of Thomas and Rachel.



Fairfield Precinct with designated sites of Darnall's homesteads in the Big Creek neighborhood and the 4 pioneer families' who came to Embarass in 1828. X's mark the first settlements in the area.

cated on adjoining land with Ben and the Darnalls near the present Embarrass Church.

Thomas Darnall first came from Kentucky to Edgar County in 1822 and lived for a while with his wife and thirteen children in the Big Creek neighborhood near the site of today's Grandview. The Darnalls secured two homesteads in that area and their only daughter to be born in Illinois. Sarah White Darnall, arrived the next December. But tragedy struck before their second year in the new land ended. Between August 26 and October 2, 1824 two Darnall boys, a young girl, and a newborn son died. The reasons are now unknown, except for the oldest, twenty-two-year-old John, who LeBaron's 1879 history said died of "*Orleans fever*,"—whatever that was.

A few years later Thomas deeded the dearly-acquired land in that portion of Fairfield to seven of his oldest remaining children; among them, William D., Aaron and Daniel, who helped build the roads in this county. He then moved the rest of his family to the west-central part of the county on land where Jerry Carrington, a great, great grandson, lives now.

These families pointed the way for the steady stream of pioneers who followed in the next thirty years. From brief histories (in the Edgar County Historical Society - Paris Carnegie Library files) written in 1926 by Dr. William S. Jones and Peter Chesrown, past residents of this area, we find at least a *partial* list of those later arrivals. Following are excerpts from those papers:

... Now James Flack had land just across the creek south of the Darnall-Smart land [Smart was a son-in-law of Darnall.] the old home site where John Combs lived and owned, on the "Ridge" in northeast part of the township [first] settled by John Deems and Joab York. This ridge a part of the Champaign Morain on which a trail, later an angling road [called the Ridge Road, also the stage route] leading northwestward through Buck, Embarrass, Shilo, and Young America Townships.

Ewing Milburn was one of the large land owners that improved a large part of the land, nearly all east and west of the east branch of the Embarrass River, [now] the Roll farms, and Thomas Ferguson Farm and built the first large home that still



First clapboard home on Darnall-Smart farm. It's the Carrington home today. Pictured: Lou and Peter Chesrown III, Myrtle, Avis and Garnet, on the ground.



Mary M. York Fulwider,  
daughter of Joab York.

George Roberts and Col. Noel, sons-in-law of James Scott lived here and some of the land is today in the Roberts family on which is a small cemetery just west of the creek and north of the road, one mile west of Redmon, the "Old Scott Graveyard."

North of the creek near the county line James Tabor and Mr. Norton father of Luther Norton, MM Burt. This is the Crawford farm, originally 5 or 6 hundred acres of this.

Mr. Hollis, Jake McVey, Wm. and Henson Hollis, Wm. Owsley, all settled on the edge of the open prairie, northeast of Catfish. Alexander Martin settled in the Milburn neighborhood west of Redmon.

In the southwest, Elijah and Abraham Campbell, Wm. Craig, Wm. Blood, Joseph Bradbury, Jacob Housel, James Downs, Moses Burnet, Elijah Wells in the more open prairie.

Then the more open prairie was fast taken up and improved, [by] Charles Merkle, Thomas Ferguson [in the late 60's.]

These people opened up the area around our town of Redmon for the influx of immigrants who came later. In the beginning they traveled for supplies to the Big Creek settlement, or to Paris where they were active in local government. Eventually that first settlement,

stands. . . the Milburn land was divided up to a large family of children. It had timber on either side of the stream and extended into the prairie on either side, and was in cultivation some time before much of the other prairie land was farmed. Most of the other well built homes built early are long since gone so that the Old Ferguson Home on the Springfield Road west of Redmon [now Carl Miller's on Rt. 133] is still in good repair built by Ewing Milburn 80 years ago, [about 1846.]



Roll home, north of Embarrass Church, Pictured: Hannah Roll, Mary Hathaway, Thomas McDonald.



House built by Ewing Milburn about 1846. Pictured: Thomas Ferguson and children.

known as Catfish, contained business concerns which provided the necessary items for frontier existence, as well as the first post office, first school, and first church in the vicinity. It became recognized about 1836, along with other new communities throughout the county, when more voting places and precincts were established. Though never officially a town, Catfish was of invaluable service to the residents in Embarrass for several decades.

Before township organization the population increased to almost 400 persons. Of these, about 100 were registered voters at the April 7, 1857 election in Catfish when the first Embarrass Township officers were elected. They were: Supervisor – Charles Brown; Assessor – James B. Downs; Collector – Jabel Bandy; Clerk – William Hollis; Justices of the Peace – William McCord and William Ousley; Constables – Robert E. and Joseph Smith; Road Commissioners – Moses Burnett, David Smith, and Henson Hollis; and Overseer of the Poor – Alexander Wilson.



Old Ferguson house, now the home of Carl and Pearl Miller.



FERGUSON FAMILY. Pictured: Back row, left to right: Ura Trimble, Kate, Charles Housel holding Fay, his wife Elsie, Hugh and Ida Ferguson, Doug and Etta Merkle. Middle row: Thomps, Sue Trimble, Thomas and Maria Ferguson. Front: Bernice, Ethel Trimble, Gertrude, Margaret Trimble, Molly, Bertha, Art Trimble, and four other Ferguson girls.



Hugh Ferguson's home south of the Embarrass Church. Pictured: "Aunt Shat" Fonner, Edna, Ida Belle and Hugh Ferguson, Margaret, Bertha, Gertrude, and Ethel Trimble.



CHESROWN FAMILY. Pictured: Front row: Anna Sunkel, Mattie, Ella Smith, Lou, Arminta and Mattie Weaver. 2nd row: Clive, James, William Smith, Peter III, Dan, and Ike Weaver. 3rd row: Myrtle, Avis, Grace Weaver, Irene and Marie Smith, Garnet and Elizabeth. Children: Willard, Owen and Ralph Sunkel, Genevieve Chesrown.



SMITH HOME. Pictured: John R., wife Margaret, their sons Elbert "Bud," and David.

In Memory of Mother and Dad, Mr. and Mrs. Philip S. Smith  
by daughters, Vineta and Erma.



Link Conley home, now owned by Russell Conley.



LINK CONLEY FAMILY. Pictured: Nellie, Russell, Fred, Zella, Zona, Ruby and Mabel, Link and Dessie Conley.





THE WOOD FAMILY. Pictured: Minerva, Margaret, and Cyrus, all seated; Lillie, Orville, Will, and Abner.



Conley home on Springfield Road, now owned by Mrs. Chet Hayworth. Pictured: Mr. and Mrs. James Conley, William and Libby.



Original house on the Standly farm west of Redmon.



Standly home built in 1909. Pictured: R. E. Standly and family. This is now the home of Anna Louise and Dale Laughead.



THE WOOD FAMILY. Pictured: Minerva, Margaret, and Cyrus, all seated; Lillie, Orville, Will, and Abner.



Conley home on Springfield Road, now owned by Mrs. Chet Hayworth. Pictured: Mr. and Mrs. James Conley, William and Libby.



Original house on the Standly farm west of Redmon.



Standly home built in 1909. Pictured: R. E. Standly and family. This is now the home of Anna Louise and Dale Laughead.



DOUGLAS MERKLE HOME. Pictured: Mrs. Etta Merkle and her nephew, Art Trimble.  
This was recently the home of Fred and Carol Wilcoxon.



TRIMBLE HOME now owned by E. E. Kautman. Pictured: Sue Trimble, her children Ethel, Art, Ura and Ray (on the ground).

In Memory of Mrs. Elsie Adams Trine, Charles H. Adams, M. Stella Curl Adams,  
Charles Westly Adams, and Mary Elizabeth Curl  
by Dale Trine.



FULWIDER FAMILY. Pictured: Top row: Clyde York, Lucy, Charles, Chauffeur Sipen, Harry, Minnie, Cora, Bessie, Neal York. First row: (Unknown), Edna Sipen, Mac, Grandma York Fulwider, Prudence, Bruce, and Minnie York.



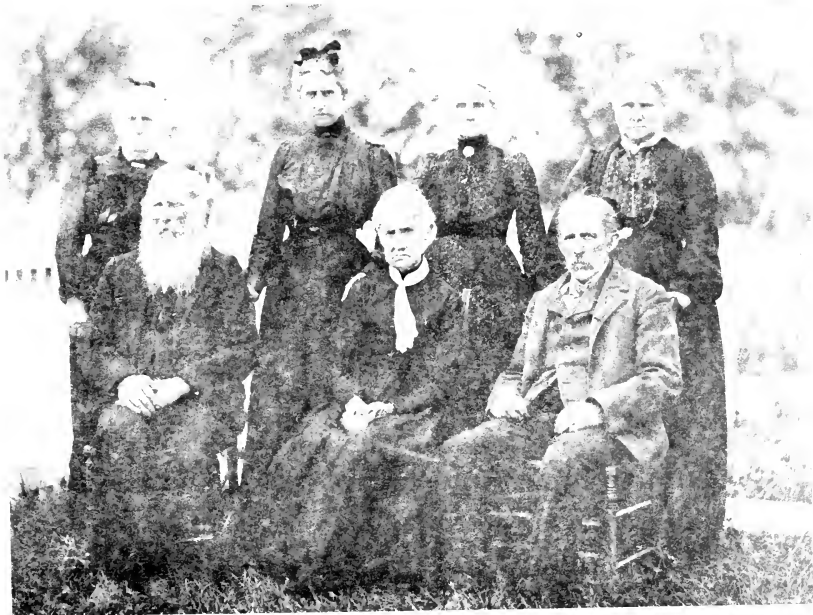
LAUGHEAD FAMILY. Pictured: Molly and Ivan, Edith Myrtle and Wilbur.



Sam Andrews Place where Laughead Family lived; recently the home of Wayne and Lois Tomaw.



FRANK DANIELS' HOME, later Ed Willoughbys', on Rt. 133.



SNYDER FAMILY. Pictured: Sarah Casteel, Margaret Cassity, Mary Minser, Minerva Wood. Seated: Ewen, Grandmother Snyder, Andrew.

In Memory of Parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Swinford, and Husband, Edgar Biggs  
by wife, Irma Biggs.



ISAAC BARR FAMILY. Pictured: Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Barr, Florence and Lillian.

By 1870, according to the U. S. census, the population in Embarrass had more than tripled—to at least 1250. Before that, transportation had been difficult and prices too cheap to raise much grain or livestock for distant markets. Some fruit was raised in the area, but that market, too, was miles away through the dense prairie in Tolono.

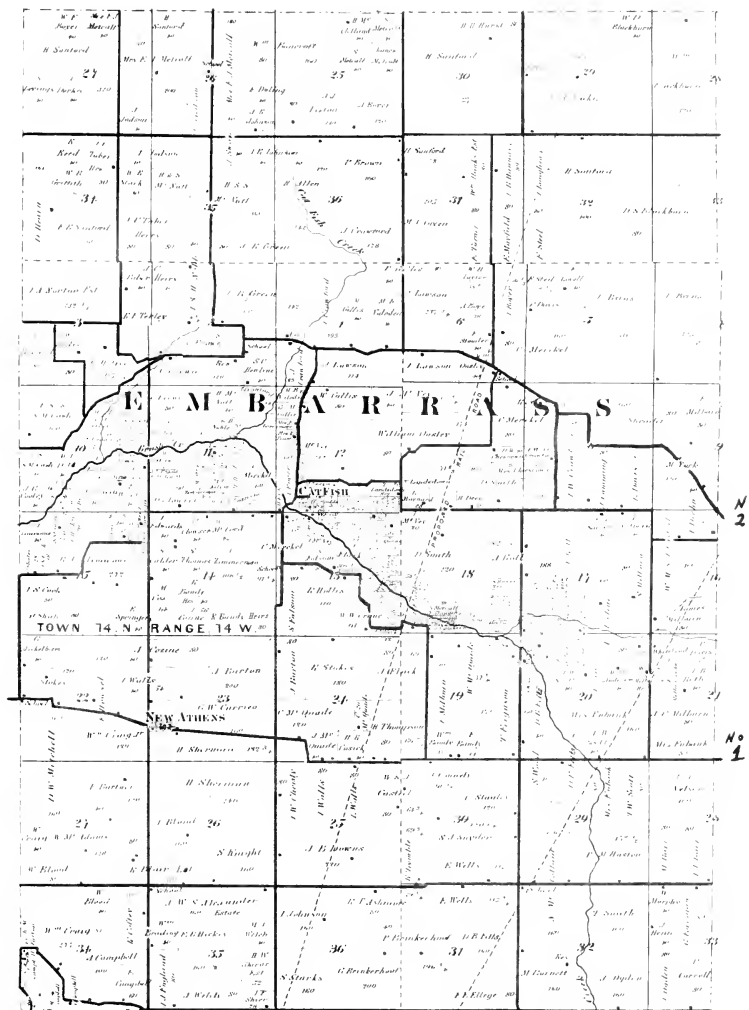
Joab York, who lived in the northeast corner of the township, had a peach orchard and, with help from his son-in-law, hauled the fruit in a steel tired wagon to Tolono. "They'd have to start before sun-up," his grandson, Harry Fulwider, told me recently. "I can remember my father talking about the sun shining on the dew that covered the prairie grass. You know it

was ten feet tall or more, and the dew just sparkled and made everything beautiful."

During the next year, however, the Paris and Decatur Railroad crossed the region, and by then new types of machinery had been invented. Together they provided better farming methods and a new mode of transportation to more profitable markets.

Around 1890 the first measures were taken to drain the wet, black loam. Huge dredging machines were used to cut drainage ditches across the lands with outlets into Catfish Creek. Surrounding areas were tiled. Soon, with wheat from the cleared timber regions, and corn from the prairie, Embarrass Township led the county in grain production.





(Atlas of Edgar County and the State of Illinois; Warner and Higgins, Publishers)



## Buck Township

A few of Edgar County's earliest settlers bought up some of the land in today's Buck Township for speculation, but only a handful of outsiders risked buying the flatlands without first owning a piece of timber ground for lumber, fuel, and a place to build their homes. It

was the 1850's before many newcomers started living on the encompassing prairie. Even then, they were slow to break the sod because of the disadvantages previously mentioned.

In addition, the pioneers' wooden moldboard plows were almost incapable of turning the



SUNKEL HOME – First frame house in country around here. Pictured: Mary Steers, Clara Moore, Riley Plank, Ed Sunkel, Anna and Elmer Sunkel, Ralph and Baby Willard in front.

In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. William R. Fox and Sarah Fox  
by Charles E. Fox and family.

heavily-rooted soil, and it took teams of six oxen or horses to pull them. Then, too, a "pestiferous breed" of flies with an "insatiable thirst for blood," according to the 1905 Historical Encyclopedia-History, caused near-panic in the animals when men farmed the land.

Another threat to the sod-busters were dens of rattlesnakes. They wriggled and writhed through the narrowing strip of grass made by an approaching plow until it was almost impossible to avoid them. Few people who felt the reptile's poisonous fangs died, however, because of a local remedy

which also helped relieve the pain from insect bites. This "remedy" was to fill the victim full of sod-corn whiskey—apparently not too difficult a task. "As soon as the patient began to feel the bite of the whisky more than that of the snake," it reads in LeBaron's 1879 History, "he was considered out of danger."

On the other hand, the lush grasses provided ample pasturage for cattle. So for a number of years large herds of beeves were seen roaming the grasslands, and at one time a corral stood on the present site of the Guy C. Brown farm north-



FOX FAMILY. Pictured: Fount, William, Abe and Sarah Fox Allison. These four brought their parents from Indiana in 1867 to the farm now owned by Charles A. North (a grandson of Will Fox.

east of Redmon. Since there were so few fences then, several farmers hired a drover to herd their livestock in the daytime, then drive the cows into the pens at dusk for milking.

Harry Fulwider, a lifelong resident of this county, told me his father, Horace, used to talk about "Sarie Fox," a neighbor girl who rode to the corral on horseback with two large

jugs on hamstrings hung over her saddle. "She'd get off her horse." Mr. Fulwider said, "squat down among those cows, put a jug between her knees, and milk into the large-mouthed jar. Dad told me he could 'still see Sarie milkin' away with the green-head flies flyin' everywhere.'"

Consequently, the population increased slowly. Dr. Jones wrote:

"The earliest settlements were made by Andrew Lycan, Absolom Pitcher, Horace Griswold, Wm. Tichnor, Wm Culbertson, Henry Rhudy, Uriah Colier, Jacob Hinds, Wm Barnhill, S. R. Metcalf, Dr. J. M. Boyles, Burt Holcomb, Henry Breeding, Adam Stewart, Wm Murphy, Wm Snyder, Thos Marks, Madison and John Clinton, Solomon Trogdon, Richard Stanley, Wm Cline, and Enos Arbogast. Besides, a lot of land was used for grazing by Jos Redmon, David Stewart, David Morris, Steven and Jonithan Ogden, Harvey and John Perisho, and Wm Buckler.

"Jos Redmon has the record of Breaking the greatest area of 'Raw Prairie Sod,' Dr. Barlow was the first physician to practice and live in the Tp. This was when the 'Green Head flies, Mosquitos, Wild Geese, Ducks, Brants, and Cranes lived and nested in the sloughs. No bridges nor graded roads were present.

"The first school was what is known as the Buckler, now Buck School, and it was at this School house that all the town meetings and all Elections were held."



STANDLY FAMILY. Pictured: Callaway Standly and Margaret, Dr. Zack Standly and Nan, Levi Standly and Kate.



HONNOLD FAMILY. Pictured: Gene, Wilbur, and Mrs. Harlan Honnold.

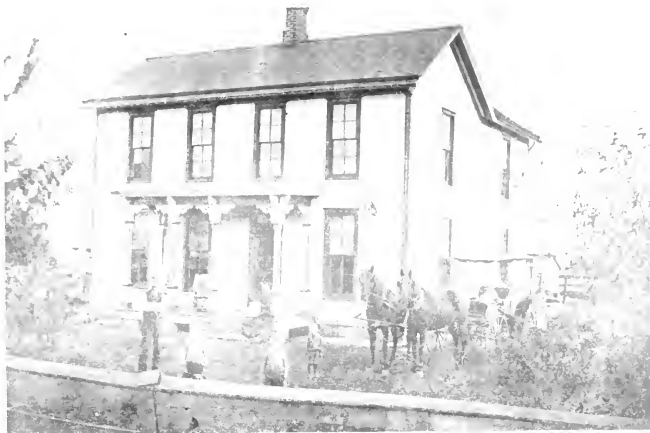
In Memory of Esther Headley Gilbert  
by son John H. Gilbert and wife Mary Jo, and their children, Mark and Elizabeth.



PERISHO FAMILY in 1912. Pictured: Front row, left to right: Elbert Harvey, Mr. and Mrs. John Perisho, Dessie. Back row: Kate, Ruth, and Mary.



LINDSEY FAMILY. Pictured: Back row: Arthur, Gladys, Roy and Tessie. Front: Simon and Dovee.



Albert Waller home, now the home of Carl, a grandson. Pictured: Albert, Rosa, Ferdinand, Leonard, Carl, Henry in surrey: about 1895.



Querrey home in 1902. Pictured: Estella, Warner C., Madge, Mrs. Querrey, Mary, Ernest, Frank, Robert, and John Lilley.

In Memory of Richard and Anna Mason Standly  
by Roy Standly, Roy and Leona Lindsey.



QUERREY-NORTH FAMILY. Pictured: Ernest, Warner, Frank Querrey, Charles A. North, Earl Wilson, Madge and Ovid Swinford, Stella, Mary, Bert, and Tillie North.

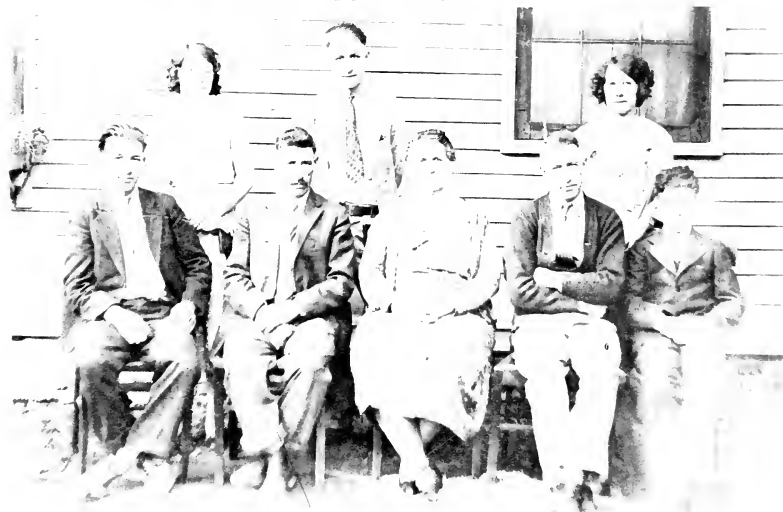


NORTH-FOX FAMILY. Pictured: 1st row, left to right: Lillie North, Earl, Carl, Helen, Raymond, Marie Thiel, Mary, Mayme, Grace North, Frank Fox, Ivan and Glen Burton. 2nd row: John, Blanche and Mae Thiel, George and Mary North, William and Sarah Fox, Robert and Ethel Burton. 3rd row: Bert, Arthur and Tillie North, Etta Allison, Mortella and Charlie Fox, Abe Fox. 4th row: Charlie, Thelma and Stella North, Ella North, and Cleoh Allison.





STANDLY HOME, home of Clarence Kile now. Pictured: Seated: Mabel holding doll, Anna holding Roy, Grandpa Gritz and an unknown relative. Richard E., Maggie Osborn and John Mason, Sr.



ELAM FAMILY. Pictured: Front row: Rance, Mr. and Mrs. Elam, Forrest and Joe. Back row: LaFern, Dick, and Lucille.



Henn house.  
Pictured: Marjorie,  
Billy and Robert Henn.



HENN BROTHERS. Pictured: John, Jacob, Henry and Nicholas.



House on H. J. Jump Farm built in 1885, now the home of Margaret and Jim Ingram.



EMANUEL MEYERS HOME; later belonged to son, Milt. Pictured: Sitting on porch, left to right: Roy Ousley, Bernard and Max Meyers, Fred Ousley, Mrs. Harriet Bollar, Mrs. Emma Exline, Mrs. Rebecca Ousley. Men standing on left: Phil Smith, Milt Meyers, Charles Ousley, Ora Rhoades, Sid Meyers. On steps, top row: Ella Smith, Marie Meyers, Vineta Smith, Hazel Rhoades, Glen Ousley, Mary Meyers, Mable Ousley, Mrs. Allie Rhoades. Children on steps: Sumner Henn, Wilbur Rhoades, Curt Meyers, Helen Ousley, Eileen Meyers. Women standing on right: Mrs. Celia Meyers, Mrs. Anna Henn, Mrs. Maud Meyers, Miss Lydia Meyers.



TIMBER SKETCH

When the first township election was held in 1857, however, there were barely enough citizens available to fill the offices. Officials elected at that time were: Supervisor—W. H. Barnhill; Assessor—Adam Stewart; Collector—Richard Stanley; Clerk—Jacob Zimmerly; Justices of the Peace—Thomas Marks and William Snyder; Road Commissioners—J. M. Boyles, James Vance, and William Cline; Overseer of the Poor—Simpson R. Metcalf; Constables—William Buckler and David Lynch; and Overseers

of Highways—Uriah Colier and Emanuel Myers.

Part of the early settlers hauled lumber and rails from sawmills in “the southern timber” to erect the first buildings and fences on the plains in this area. A few log cabins were built, but soon roomier, sturdier homes of whitewashed clapboards appeared, surrounded by young fruit and shade trees, mulberry, or walnut groves.

As additional cropland was broken out, more fences were needed to inhibit livestock from wandering through the fields. For a while people planted hedges along fence rows, but soon decided too much valuable space was taken up by this method and abandoned the idea. Today, there are few Osage orange hedges remaining, with their yellow wood and big green hedge-apples, that once enclosed the farms of our past.

As late as the mid-1800's large tracts of prairie were still used for grazing, and the long-avoided sloughs were a constant reminder to farmers of the land's virgin state for many years yet to come. With special drainage ditches and the wide use of tiling, however, Buck rapidly gave way to agricultural progress. Some livestock is still raised here, but the township now ranks with Embarrass among the largest grain producers in America.

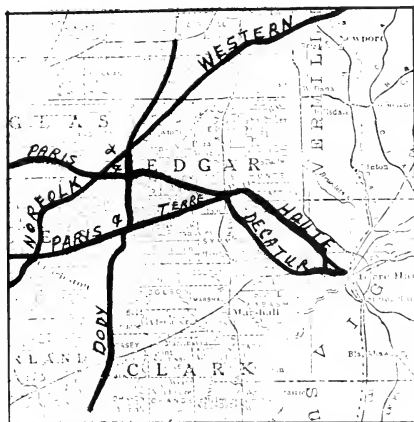


One of few remaining hedge rows in country.





# Railroads and Stations



1931 Map of Railroads in Illinois (Rand McNally.)

Although the Springfield Road brought the first pioneers to this part of the county, it was the coming of the railroads that brought about the largest change in our land. Until builders of the nation's railways learned how to drain the swampy soil, agricultural development progressed slowly in the prairie regions.

The first railroad in our area, the Terre Haute & Alton, is the oldest in Edgar County. It requires only brief mention here, however, because

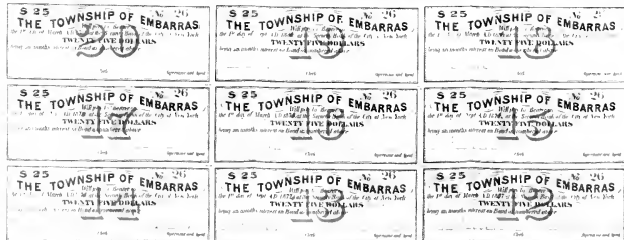
the tracks barely touched the southeastern corner of Buck Township when the road was finished in 1853. This company, as with others from the beginning to the present, has had a change of names and ownership several times in its history, and was the main cause for a controversy that arose within the state when another railroad sought right-of-way through Illinois to Alton's rival city, St. Louis, Missouri.

Outside pressure groups denounced Illinois'

state policy of denying "foreign corporations" to cross its borders, and when the tracks were finally linked (via the coal route across the Mississippi River around 1862) the company had been sold under foreclosure and became known as the St. Louis, Alton & Terre Haute Railroad. In 1870 this route was leased by another railway and the eastern end extended to Indianapolis. The name

was then changed to the Indianapolis & St. Louis Railroad.

Eleven years later, a suit was filed against this company because of arrears in rent and the road was sold at auction in Indianapolis, then re-organized in 1882, and again in 1889 to finally form the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis Railroad, known as the Big Four. This



In 1871 the Paris and Decatur Railroad Company sold \$1,200,000 worth of bonds (800 were issued for \$1,000 each, and 800 for \$500 each, like the one above) to finance the project of building the right-of-way through Edgar County.



branch remained under their ownership for several years and was later called the Cairo Division when this portion was deeded to a sister line, the Cairo, Vincennes & Chicago. Eventually, the Big Four System was absorbed, with others, by one of the giants in the railway industry, the New York Central. (All of the depots along this track were erected in other townships.)

Today, after a merger with the Pennsylvania Railroad in 1968, this road is a part of the Penn-Central System.

The main railroad in our history started as the Paris & Decatur Railroad. The author has not been able to obtain the correct charter date, so a reference is made from LeBaron's 1879 History and the 1905 Historical Encyclopedia-History. LeBaron's said, on page 281, *"the Paris & Decatur, was chartered February 16, 1865."* The other book, on page 521, reads, *"the Paris and Decatur Railroad, chartered in 1861 was opened in December, 1872."* Still other sources establish the date of the first train's run as October 25 in that year, although the business end of it may not actually have been in operation for another two months.

By '74 three separate railways had been completed from Terre Haute, Indiana, through Paris, to Peoria, Illinois—a total of approximately

145 miles. Individually, they weren't paying projects, so in November the Paris & Decatur, Paris & Terre Haute, and the Peoria, Atlanta & Decatur Railroads were consolidated under one management. They were then called the Illinois Midland, but R. G. Hervey (a landowner in the pre-Redmon locale,) who had been president of the first branch, continued as head official of the Midland. Hervey's company was sold under foreclosure in 1886, and the next spring was reorganized as the Terre Haute & Peoria, under new management. It was jokingly referred to for a while as the "Take Hold and Pull," or the "Take Hold and Push," because the time schedule was hardly ever met.

Five years later the name was again changed; this time to the Terre Haute & Indianapolis, which was operated as a part of the Pennsylvania Railroad and called the Vandalia Line. Now, it's also a branch of the Penn-Central.

From 1926 until 1955 Virgil Jones, a Redmon resident then and now, worked on the maintenance crew, or section gang of this road. When he first started working on this line, it was a part of the Vandalia. For a time his crew worked out of Paris, but during most of his almost 25 years service to the "Pennsy," orders came through the depot at Redmon.



Early railroad gang. Matt Jones and John Schad are believed to be in photo.

In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sunkel  
by Morris and Grace Sunkel.

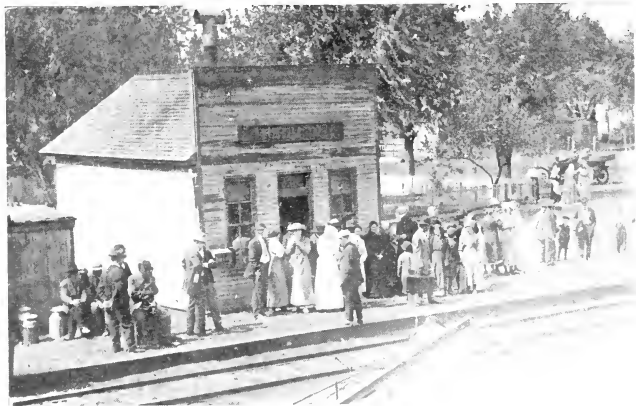
Section foremen he remembered were John Schad - Redmon, Matt Jones - Paris, and George Johnson - Oakland. Members of his crew were Herbie Wilson, Bill Davis, Bruce Wilson, then later, Ivan Ziegler, Harold Butler, and others.

For many years the tracks carried several trains a day. There were four passenger trains when Mr. Jones first came to this region, "as well as two local freights, two regular freights, and an extra or two," he said. "There was quite a bit of business here then. Lots of stock left Redmon in them days. Lots of coal and lumber was brought in. Gravel was hauled in trains back then, too, and supplies for groceries, and hardware stores. The implement business was big then, too, and lots of machinery was hauled in."

The passenger trains were made up of an engine, coal car, express, mail, and two coaches, "one the smoker. The express cars would haul anything that was small enough—packages, a calf, or dog," he recalled.



Redmon Depot. Pictured: Lil Gifford waiting to board, and Herman Chandler, the Section Boss.



First Redmon Depot that burned in 1913.

10	15	14	11	STREET		12	11	10	9	STREET		8	7	6	5	STREET		4	3	2	1
WEST MAIN				STREET	STREET	SECOND				STREET	STREET	FIRST				STREET	STREET	FIRST			
17	16	15	10			21	22	23	24			2	3	27	28			29	30	31	32

Plat of New Athens 1870. (Atlas of Edgar County and the State of Illinois: Warner and Higgins, Publishers, Philadelphia)

When business slowed down the freight trains had a passenger car on the back end. The Jones family came home from Texas once through St. Louis, boarded the "main line of the Pennsy," rode to Terre Haute, then got on "this here little jumpin' jack," the railroader remarked, "and rode to Redmon."

"With cream cans and other freight," his wife added, "there were just a few seats left for passengers. And it was rough!"



John Richeson home in Isabel, where Lil Gifford and Minnie Mapes grew up.

The "Gallop-in' Goose," a new type of gasoline-run engine was used on this line for a short period. Mr. Jones said, "It was built sorta like a passenger car. Wasn't no good in the snow, so it didn't last long."

Redmon may have been the first station to be erected alongside these tracks. Four months later, on April 8, 1872, another village was built on the western edge of Embarrass Township. This one was named for Isabel, the wife of John Corzinne on whose land it was located. Isabel soon absorbed the business from New Athens, (a settlement along the Springfield Road to the south, dating back to 1840) and still has a few businesses and several homes.

The only town to be constructed solely in Buck Township, on the original Paris & Decatur Railroad, was Mays Station. It was platted on land belonging to Thomas Mays, a large landowner in Buck, and named in his honor.

During its existence there've been a number of businesses in the village, including a tile factory that was erected when ditching and tiling came into wide use. Elections in Buck were held here, too, for some time, but after a hassle with township officials in 1917 the town house was moved elsewhere a few years later.

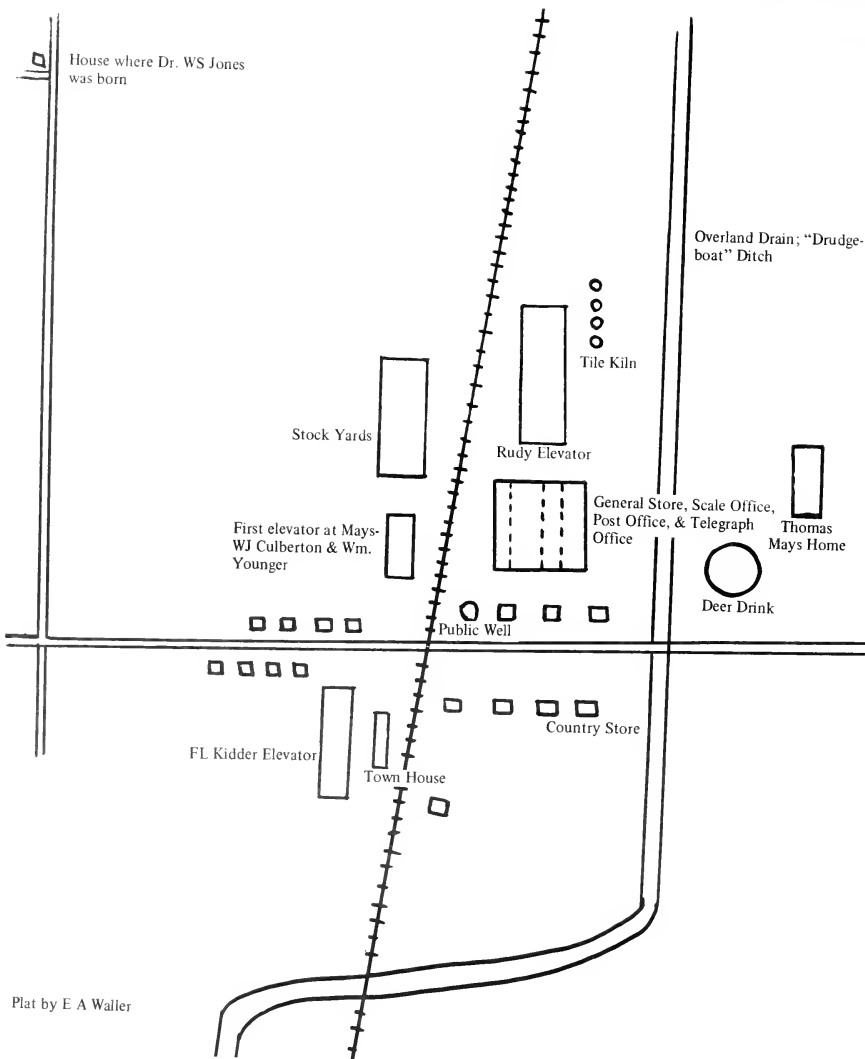
Marie Adams, a long-time resident of the area, moved to her present home (a mile southeast of Mays) in 1908 and remembers them as thriving concerns, all except the tile factory. It was falling

into ruin at that time, but her father worked there as a young man with others from the surrounding community. "The tiles they made were mostly the round field type," Miss Adams reported, "but there were also some square ones, probably 12 inches long and 4 inches across, baked in the kilns."

The Kidder Elevator had just been built. It was on the north side of the railroad, "west of the wagon road," and had three driveways and a large number of dumps—some say 44, others even more. There were two more elevators; the Culbertson & Younger, in business before the town was surveyed, and the Rudy Elevator which was torn down sometime after 1954.



Marie's grandparents, Thomas J. and Isabella Trine Adams, probably the first couple to be married in Buck Township.



Plat of Mays, in early 1900's.

In Memory of Simon and Dovie Brengle Lindsey  
by Roy and Leona Lindsey, and Tessie Lindsey White



CULBERTSON'S HOME: the first brick house in the area, built about 1860.



Kidder Elevator in 1912.

In Memory of Charles E. and Rosa M. Barr  
by Glenn H. Barr, son

Another of Miss Adams' pleasant memories was seeing neighbors taking their livestock to where they were shipped in railcars to market. She had been a little girl in those days, "barely tall enough to hang on a fence and see over the top," she recalled. "But I can remember people on foot driving their herds of squealing shoats, honking geese, or strutting turkeys down our road.

Miss Adams also said church services were held in the town house before it was moved. "Our Sunday School teacher was Joe Vander-ventor, who ran one of the stores there," she added.

Of the original old village site, only one house remains, plus the recently defunct Arco Chemical plant now standing nearby.

In 1881 two more roads, the old Dody or Cloverleaf and the present Norfolk & Western Railway through Brocton, were built across Embarrass. With these lines, both originally narrow gauge, railroad construction in the county was complete.

At present the importance of these branches seems debatable. At least to the Penn-Central Railroad Company which is contemplating the dismantlement of its two lines; one through the corner of Buck, and the other through Redmon, Borton (a town at the junction of the Cloverleaf and the P & D Railroads,) and Isabel. Since traces of the old Dody have already disappeared from the western side of the township, the N & W may soon be the only railroad in the county west of Paris.



## II

# REDMON

*“Every Road has two ends...  
At one end the farm,  
At the other end the country town...”*

## The Town and Its Founders

Shortly after the Paris & Decatur Railroad was constructed, the village of Redmon was laid out and the site surveyed. The main instigators in its development were John B. Warnick and Joseph Redmon, the latter providing the town's name.

In 1838, at the age of eight, Joseph came from Kentucky to Edgar County with his father, Bennet, and was raised on his father's farm south of Paris. He then became a farmer and stock

raiser on his own, probably settling in this region (many believe on the present site of Lee Newcomer's farm) in the mid-50's when he bought considerable properties in Buck. Throughout the coming years he made numerous deals within the surrounding townships as well.

The marriage of Joseph Redmon and Jane Buckler took place in March 1859, and some of their descendants live in this vicinity. Of their



Joseph Redmon in front of old Moss home.  
Seated on porch, Clay Moss.

In Memory of Carl W. Nicholson  
by wife, Floraj Janice C. and David A. Nicholson  
You left a beautiful memory,  
But a sorrow too great to be told.  
To us who loved and lost you.  
Your memory will never grow old.





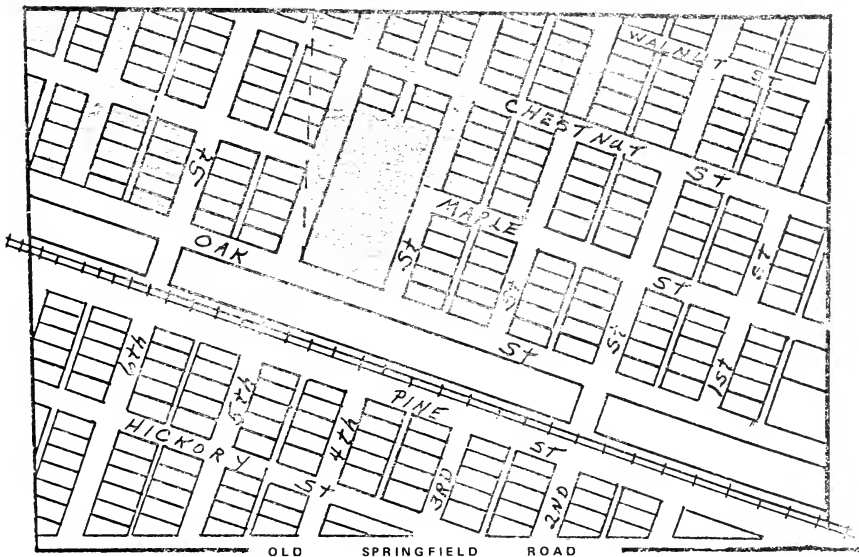
Two of Joseph's daughters: Allie and Bess

nine children, four made their homes in Edgar County: Callie married Thomas J. Keys. Allie became the wife of Ed Moss, Bess's husband was Fred David, and Zora Collier was the bride of Joseph, Jr.

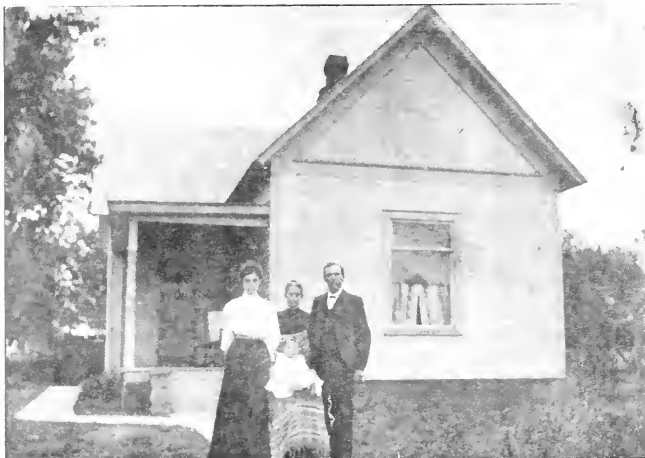
For several years Joe made his home on 100

acres of land at the northern edge of Paris (in the house on the corner north of where Poole's Discount Store now stands). He died in November 1911.

There's little known about the other man. John Warnick bought land in Dudley in 1868, then



A drawing of the original town plat of Redmon in 1872, showing blank section that became Barr's Sub-Division in 1883.



Mrs. Michael V. Barr and family; Charles and Rosa, son Glenn

acquired several acres in Embarrass prior to Redmon's origin. On into 1874, sometimes with his wife Lucy A., he sold town property regularly. Before that period and afterward, his name has eluded all county records. From where he came, his previous connection, if any, with his partner, and his later location remain a mystery.

The town was surveyed on January 9, 1872, and the original plat was certified as being accurate at the time of its recording. Yet four years later a correction was made by the same

county surveyor, George W. Foreman. On March 21, 1876 the records of county deeds were changed to show Redmon lying in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  and the East  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Township 14 North, Range 13 West of the 2nd Principal Meridian—not in Section 29 as previously stated, but in Section 21.

By 1880, although the U. S. Census records for that year are vague, there were at least 93 people living in the town. Households, in alphabetical order, and notes from that census follow:

#### 1880's Redmon Inhabitants

Name	Age	Relation	Occupation
(1) Barr, Michael	33		grain dealer
" Sarah	33	wife	
" Bertha	10	daughter	
" Mattie	9	daughter	
" Andrew	8	son	
" Ada	5	daughter	
" Charles	3	son	
(2) Bouns, (or perhaps Bruns)			
" Andrew	26		day laborer
" Johanna		wife	

Name	Age	Relation	Occupation
Dillon, Mary	16	step-daughter	
" Maggie	11	step-daughter	
" Georgia	9	step-daughter	
" Lizzie	6	step-daughter	
" William	4	step-son	
Garvin, John	42	boarder	railroad section boss
" Patrick	65	boarder	railroad worker
Foss, John	25	boarder	railroad worker
(3) Bundy, John	30		blacksmith
" Elizabeth	23	wife	
" Minnie	4	daughter	
" Jessie	1	daughter	
(4) Casteel, James	38		drug store
" Martha	30	wife	
" Stella	10	daughter	
" Walter	9	son	
" Birdie	6	daughter	
" Elizabeth	78	mother, widow	
(5) Cox, Frank	28		farmer
" Amanda	22	wife	
" Sarah	5	daughter	
" Maude	3	daughter	
" Mollie	2	daughter	
Davis, Sarah	29	servant, widow	
" Charles	2	son of Sarah	
(6) Cox, Robert	36		blacksmith
" Caroline	33		
" Viola	13		
(7) Crawford, Thomas	36		school teacher
" Della	24		
" Benjamin F.	3		
(8) Felding, Sampson	57		carpenter
(Probably should be Sampson, Felding L.)			
Felding, Catherine	52	wife	
" Lucy	26	daughter	
" William	17	son	
" Bertie	12	son	
(9) Fitts, David	59		farmer
" Emily	65	wife	
Young, John R.	25	boarder	physician
Hanshman, L.	32	boarder	telegrapher
(10) Gano, William	35		stock dealer
" Elizabeth	29	wife	
" Guy	10	son	
Wright, Henry	21	boarder	laborer

Name	Age	Relation	Occupation
(11) Gordon, James S.	42		merchant
" Mary E.	40		
" Minnie	12		
" Warren	9		
" Herbert	2		
" Willard	Born Dec. 1879		
Staniker, Henry	15		clerk in grocery store
(12) Hussey, Jonathan	39		shoemaker
" Elizabeth	36	wife	
Blakely, Henry	17	boarder	railroad worker
Yester, John	21	boarder	railroad worker
(13) Knight, William	43	widower	physician
" Vernie	10	daughter	
" Paul	4	son	
Cusick, Jame S.	36	servant	
(14) Mason, John	39		grocer
" Caroline	35		
" Anna E.	12		
" John W.	8		
" Charles N.	Born Nov. 1879		
(15) Milburn, William	30		plasterer
" Rusine	29	wife	
" Leona	8	daughter	
" Van Sellar	5	son	
" Louisa	Infant daughter		
(16) Ray, Bruce	35		farmer
" Mollie	22	wife	
Pitcher, Dozier	40	boarder	plasterer
(17) Redmon, Riley	21		railroad worker
" Annie	20	wife	
" Emma	Infant daughter		
(18) Roth, Thomas	69		retired lawyer
" Hester	66	wife	
" Alice	24	daughter	
(19) Standley, Calloway	46		
" Margaret	45		
" Lydiann	19		
" Charles N.	12		
" Nancy	6		

Note: Richard Standley, 16, was living with a sister, Sarah and her husband, Ed Osborne in Buck Township at this time.

(This information was taken from U. S. Census Microfilm Copies in the Genealogy Division, Denver Public Library, Colorado by Hilda Milburn Snyder.)

The population continued to increase steadily, and changes were made in the town plat. In 1883 Andrew J. Barr had blocks 25, 26 and 27 subdivided into lots and sold some for business establishments along the main thoroughfare.

Andrew's father, Michael, came to this county from Kentucky in 1829, and ten years later Andrew was born in the area of today's Grandview. Upon completion of his education, he taught school in the wintertime for a while and farmed during the summer, then later bought land (some of it still owned by his great grandchildren, Robert Barr and Mary Barr Roughton) in Embarrass. He married Maria R. Thomas in 1859. They resided on this farm (south of Redmon) until his election to the office of Edgar County Treasurer in 1877. Andrew served in that capacity for five years. In 1885 he died at his home in Paris, probably with the knowledge that his business venture in the fledgling town had been successful.

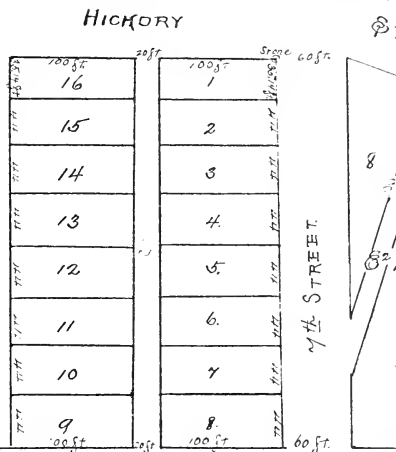
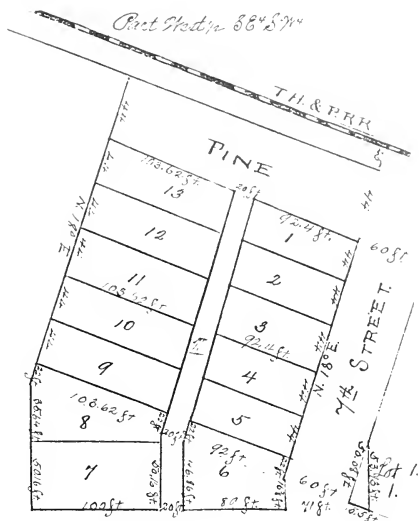
His brother, Michael V., was the grain dealer mentioned in the 1880 census, and their sister, Susannah, became the wife of Thomas Mays, the founder of Mays Station.

Barr's Sub-Division still contains the main business district of Redmon.

On February 25, 1889 an extension was surveyed for E. M. Exline and D. B. Fitts, who owned the adjoining ground at the southwest corner of town. It was called the E. M. Exline Addition.

David B. Fitts owned a number of land parcels in this area, including the site where the first house in Redmon was situated, but which, in fact, was included within the town boundaries for only a short time.

David was born in Springfield, Massachusetts in 1821 and came to Edgar County about 42 years later. His first wife was Rebecca L. Gibson, whom he married while living in Ohio. He became a widower and wedded a second time—and apparently a third, since records show the names of his wives to be Emily (who was buried in the old Scott Graveyard a mile and a half west of Redmon) and Mattie A. The latter continued to sell Fitts town property for a few years after David died at the age of 74.



Plat of 1st Exline Addition from record of Edgar County Deeds.

*Plat of E. M. Exline Addition to the town*

In Memory of Adin Keyes  
by wife Lillie Keyes, daughter "Sis" Keyes and Tony Gargala, and son, Russel Keyes.



Emma Exline with photo of her husband,  
Allen Exline,

The Exline family came to this area around 1860 and bought a farm (the old Littleton home northwest of town) where they lived until 1876. At that time they decided to sell out and move west. One of the girls had contracted rheumatic fever, and her father had heard the mountain air might do her good. "He hadn't realized, however," his granddaughter, Marie Meyers, said recently, "how severe the journey could be. Especially for someone already ill.

"Snow detained their trip," she related. "Then even by trail, it took a month. Eleven year-old Molly soon died."

A short time later her brother Charles passed away, too. After three months the heartbroken parents returned to Redmon with their one surviving child, Maud, who grew to adulthood and became the wife of Sidney Meyers. Her father, who was 44 and twice the age of her mother

when they wed, died in 1885 and was buried in Embarrass Cemetery. His widow, Emma Marie (Farquer) Exline, made the first and third annexations to the town.

With Redmon bursting at the seams the second addition quickly followed on the heels of the first. Its creator, Mark Rowe, had Willis Brinkerhoff survey the site on June 10, 1890, but for some reason the blocks were never divided into smaller lots. Rowe's Addition was added onto the east end of Redmon.

From the *Portrait and Biographical Album of Vermilion and Edgar Counties, Illinois*, published by Chapman Brothers in 1889, we learn Mark Rowe was born in Yorkshire, England in 1834. He came to the United States at the age of 18 and settled in Iowa for a few years before entering the Homeopathic Institute in Brooklyn, New York. After receiving his degree in homeopathic



MARK ROWE

medicine he started practicing, but later attended Eclectic courses in *Materia Medica* in Cincinnati, Ohio and acquired a diploma from that school in 1865. From there he came to Grandview, lived and practiced his profession for two years, then moved to Dudley. He remained in that community until 1875 and finally made his home on the hill (now owned by Clarence Kile) northeast of Redmon.

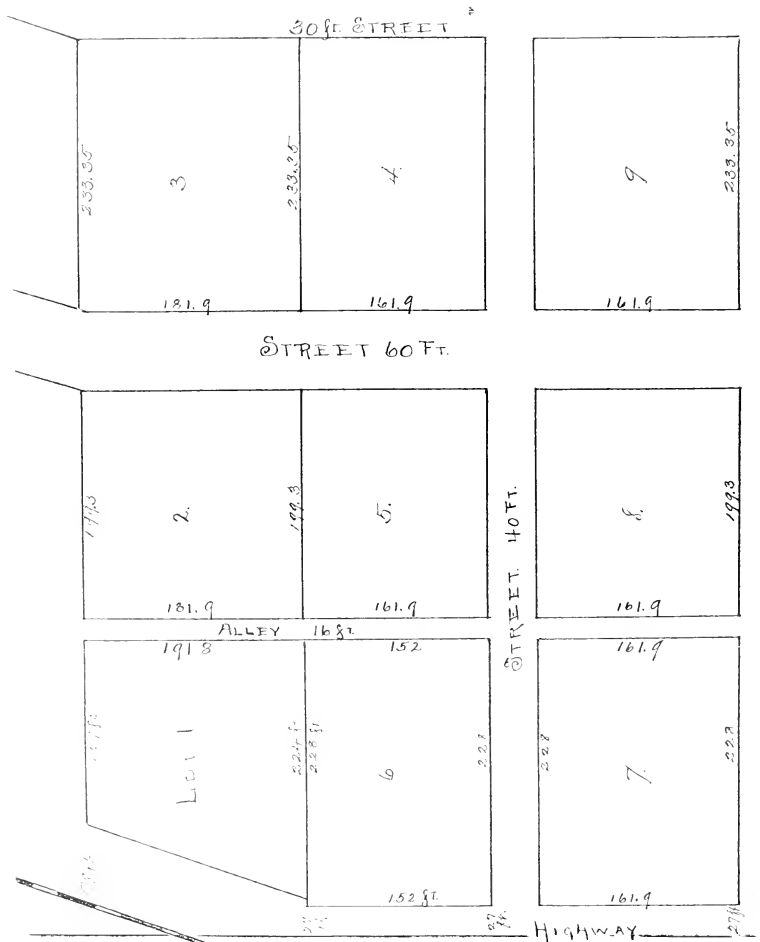
Dr. Rowe had two wives: Elizabeth P. Kennedy and Rosanne E. (House) Adams. He was almost 87 when he died at the home of his son, H. B. Rowe, in Paris in 1920.

The next enlargement, the 2nd Exline Addition, was made on May 12, 1896; west of the first one.

By then the expanding community sought incorporation. A petition had been drawn up in January of that year and voted on, but failed to pass. Probably because of the threat of higher taxes. It was another three years before a second petition was submitted. S. I. Headley, the county judge, ordered an election to be held in the office of the Brinkerhoff Elevator on February 15, 1899. For election judges he appointed Isaac Jones, Ellis Brill, C. S. and S.E. Meyers.

This time, with a vote of 20 against and 56 for the issue, it carried. Although the action wasn't filed in Probate Records until October 5, the actual date of Incorporation of the Village of Redmon was March 1, 1899.

# Rowe's Addition to Padman

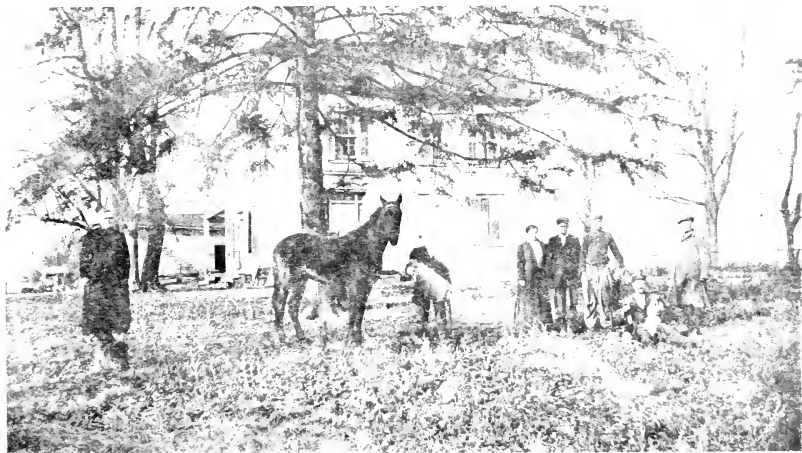


Plat of Rowe's Addition from record of Edgar County Deeds.





Dr. Rowe's farm home. Pictured: Dr. and Mrs. Rowe, Bessie and Cora Fulwider, and Aquilla Applegate.



Joseph Redmon's home at Paris. Pictured are some of his children and grandchildren. From left, Callie Keys, Virginia Tretter, the hired man; Jean and Chester, William, and T. J. Keys holding dogs, John Redmon.

In Memory of Lee Allen Waller  
by Mr. and Mrs. Carl Waller and family





Paris & Decatur Railroad which was constructed, despite his protests, within a block of his front door) and moved to Dudley.

The 1905 Historical Encyclopedia-History

states that Gordon's store was erected in 1867, five years before the town was surveyed, and *"for the first eighteen years of his residence here"* James Gordon also served as postmaster.



MILBURN HOME. Pictured: Alice and Elijah, daughters Ethel and Hilda, Harold, a son of Elijah now lives here.



Mail cart and post office. Child is Bill Gifford

His mercantile structure probably included the first post office and was on the site of the present United Methodist Church. The mail traveled by stage until the railroad was built through the town. Then it was brought in by train, as many as four times a day during the 30's and 40's, and a two wheeled cart was used to bring it from the depot. "Often there wouldn't be but two letters in the pouch," past officials relate. "Nevertheless, the postmaster had to meet every train. And sometimes wait until as late as 11 o'clock at night before it arrived."

"Now the mail is brought in by truck, twice a day from the sectional center in Champaign, Illinois," Gladys Harris, the present postmistress tells us.



Gladys Harris, present postmistress.

Others have been:

Calloway N. Standly	Lewis Wynn
James Thompson	Glenn Gifford
William Gano	Muriel Gifford, Acting Official
John W. Mason, Jr.	Ernest S. Deremiah

There seems to be a question in the minds of a few of today's residents whether Cal Standly was ever postmaster. Others are adamant that he was. Although it isn't definite that the job went along with being postmaster, it is certain that C. N. Standly was a Nortary Public in the early days of Redmon's history. (Only recently has this position been denied postal officials.)

He was also a pharmacist, and the post office was once in his drug store on the north side of Oak Street. The Standly family lived in an adjoining house in back of this store for some time.

When Thompson was postmaster the office was located in Gill's Hardware; the postoffice in front and the harness, nails, machinery, etc. in the big room in back. This was on the lot where Ed

English Grain Office is today. Some say Thompson's widow, Sally, took care of the mail, too, for a while after his death.

Gano was a livestock dealer listed in the 1880 census. He came to Edgar County in the early 50's and later made his home in the new town. (Bill & Denna Gifford now live in the house he built.) Gano was in the post office for five years.

Johnny Mason was born in Coles County in 1873, but his family soon moved to Redmon. At the age of 19 he became postmaster and worked in that capacity, along with his business of selling non-prescription drugs and notions in the same building as Standly had, until 1920 when he moved to Paris.

For eight years after that Lew Wynn ran the postal service. As a sideline, he sold cigars, tobacco, and other merchandise.

Next came Glenn Gifford who had the post-office for more than 32 years: first with a drug store, then with the dealership for feeds and seed corn. When he passed away in 1960 his widow, Muriel, acted as postmistress for four more years.

At that time Ernest "Skinny" Deremiah, a local barber, took the position. His shop was finally included in the same building. Upon his sudden death in July, 1970, Mrs. Harris assumed the duties of office.

Redmon sunk its roots into the area surrounding the post office, Gordon's Store, and Milburn's house. Shortly afterwards Ebenezer Thompson and David McCall built a blacksmith shop and the latter, a home. Others who bought town lots in the early 70's were James Crafton, John Steel, William Roth, Phillip Ray, William Deem, T. G.



Sally Thompson.

In Memory of Guy C. and Gladys Swinford Brown, and their daughter Sandra  
by the remaining Brown children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.



Gifford residence

Casper, R. G. Hervey (president of the RR.) Branson Davis, S. P. Hastey, James C. Cale, and John Mason Sr.

The list of taxpayers in Buck and Embarrass Townships in LeBaron's 1879 History has additional names, although they don't all coincide with the names and businesses in the 1880 U.S. Census. Still, the fact that these people did live in Redmon sometime during its early history

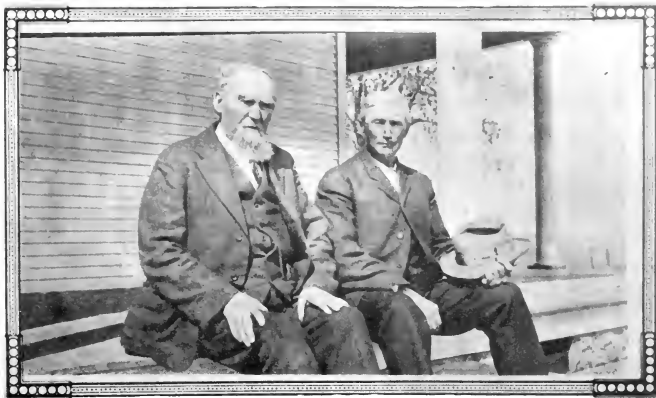
is not questioned. Throughout its life the town and surrounding community have provided a home for ancestors of many inhabitants in today's Edgar County.

Following is a registry of many of the people who have lived and/or done business in our village. It is to be used merely as a record and should, by no means, be considered complete, or entirely accurate.



Skinny and Heidi Deremiah.

In Memory of Glenn Gifford  
by wife, Muriel



Warren, son of James Gordon, and Ross Zimmerman.

## MERCANTILE, GENERAL, DRUG STORES; RESTAURANTS

James S. Gordon, store and post office; Henry Staniker clerked here in 1880.

Stanley Casteel; in the building built by Tom Roth in 1876. This may have been the drug store that stood on the lot south of the Exline house in very early times. It may also have been the one run by -

James Casteel in 1880.

Cal. N. Standly, pharmacist. There is also mention made in records of a Standly-Casteel Store, and residents recall that at one time Cal Standly and probably James Casteel were in partnership. Perhaps the Stanley Casteel listing above actually refers to this partnership.



Essinger's store.

John Mason, Sr. sold merchandise here for 14 years and hauled his own supplies in a wagon from Terre Haute. He and the entire outfit were once almost lost while fording the flooded Sugar Creek east of Paris.

John Mason, Jr. wasn't a pharmacist, but later ran the drug store that Cal had in the same location as today's P. O.

William H. Leach was in the mercantile business in 1898.

Frank Essinger came to Edgar County in 1896. He had a grocery in the front part of his flour mill, sold eggs and poultry in a boxcar alongside, and had a restaurant where Lester's Market is now.

Turner Arnold and Bill Milburn, draymen, made a living hauling groceries and supplies from the depot to stores in town, because the roads were so bad people hated to travel them.

Frank J. Foltz (and for a short time his brother Perry,) ran a grocery and general store. After the fire destroyed most of Redmon's business district his store was a very busy place, being the only one left in business at the time.



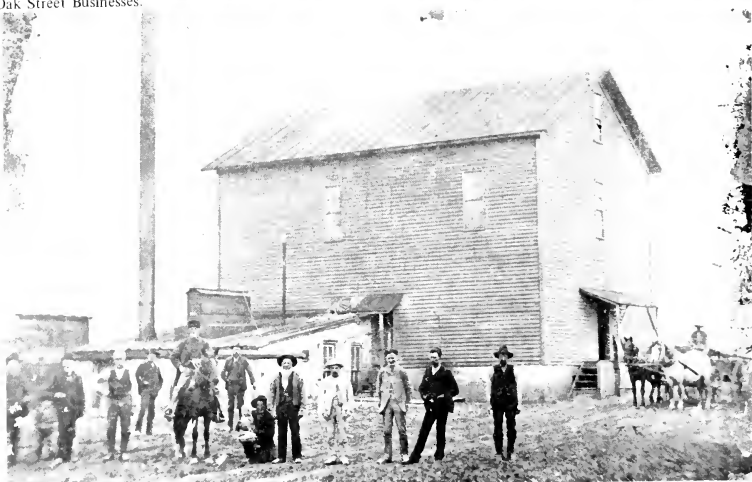
Cal Standly in his drug store.



Foltz store.



Oak Street Businesses.



Essinger's Mill

In Memory of Aunt Mary Andrews  
by Helen Howerton Cammack



Melvin "Crip" Mapes had this same business after Foltz.

Frank Daniels had it from 1922 until '26. His son Dwight ran the huckster wagon for him. Later on the family had a filling station-store-lunch counter.

Cook and Thompson had a store in town at one period. It was next to the blacksmith on Oak Street.

Hugh Ferguson bought Essinger's Mill and - Arch Marquand managed the grocery and a butcher shop. Owne Baker was the huckster.

Charles R. Jump established his general store in 1896. There was also an ice house between it and the barn where a huckster wagon and team were kept in off hours.

Walter Wilson, Sam Bates, and Omer Bell ran the wagon and/or clerked for Jump.

Harold J. Jump became a partner with his father in 1924. In 1967 Harold and his wife, Faye

closed the doors to this family business that had been in operation for 71 years. Ogle Harrison clerked there for 27 of those years.

Fred and Sada Henn leased the Jump Store for a short interval in the 50's.

The store and restaurant now known as Lester's Market and Cafe has had a number of owners. It started as the Odd Fellows Hall where the Rebeccas, or women's society, also met.

Essinger was one of the first to run this restaurant.

Herby Wilson had it for a time.

Ed Henn and "Scotty" from Terre Haute were there in the early 1900's.

"Crip" Mapes and Minnie bought it in 1919. Gladys Swinford worked for them and well-remembered cleaning up around the old pot-bellied stove after the loafers used the ashes for a spittoon.



C. R. Jump's Huckster. Pictured Walter Wilson sitting, Sam Bates standing by wagon.



Jump's original store.



Harold and Faye Jump with daughter Janice.



Biggs Gas Station



Earl Gifford in store.



Gene at Lester's Market.



Glenn Gifford at post office and feed store.

AFTER 5 DAYS RETURN TO  
**REDMON ROLLER MILLS,**  
 FERGUSON BROS., Proprietors,  
 Manufacturers of  
**HIGH GRADE FLOUR.**  
 REDMON, ILLINOIS.



# Redmon Roller Mills.

Ed Biggs, 1925; Maude Trinkle did the cooking. Five years later Ed and his new wife, Irma started a filling station in the other end of town. They also sold groceries and had a lunch counter in the building that's now a part of Bill and Ann Newman's house.

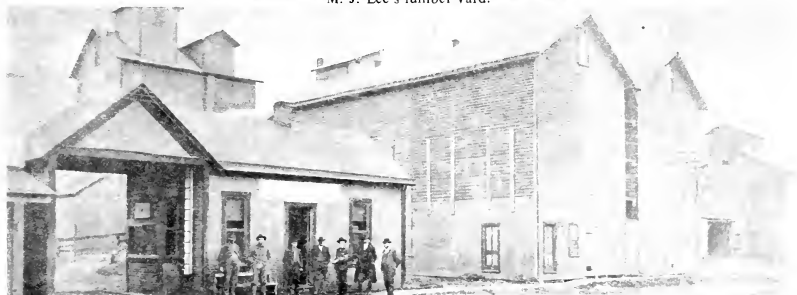
Jim White Carlyle O'Hair Bob and Helen O'Hair

Earl and Lil Gifford, 1936. Thirty years later they sold this business to their daughter - Bernadine and her husband, Gene Lester. Lil still clerks here.



M. J. Lee's lumber yard.

(Taken from  
 Atlas of Edgar County, Illinois:  
 George A. Ogle & Company,  
 Publishers: Chicago).



Lawson's elevator - Pictured: Mr. Dyer, William Craig, \_\_\_\_\_, and Dave Lawson

In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Trinkle  
 by Mary Trinkle Griffin, Jeri and Bill

Bill Brummett had a butcher shop alongside the hardware store in the west end of town. His delivery truck was driven by Fred Walberg. (In 1906, after Walberg had mysteriously disappeared for several days, his decomposing body was found in the inactive clay tile factory.)

Otis "Ote" Snider later ran the same shop.

We've already mentioned many of the restaurant owners, as most of them also had a grocery line. Others were:

? Ogen	? Spaulding	? Crouch
Sherman Hogan		Curt Elliott

G. L. "Spec" Eads turned Skinny's old barber shop into a cafe in 1963. His cook was - Ann Newman. Later she and - Muriel Gifford bought him out, but they, too, finally sold out.

### Flour Mills, Feed Stores

Frank Essinger, Redmon Roller Mills.

Hugh Ferguson acquired the mill from Essinger in the 1920's.



English's bins. From out of the ashy ruins rise the first group of concrete silos.

Milt Meyers had it and sold feed in the 30's,

Glenn Gifford sold Funk Seeds, later Lowes; Wayne, Foxbuilt, then Nutrina Feeds; and Hayes baby chicks in the mid-1900's. In '53, only 21 years ago, two tons of hog supplement cost a farmer \$212. Today, the price is a little over \$188 a ton. Gene Quillen ran a delivery service for Glenn during part of that period.

### Elevators

Lester Thomas' abstract mentions the Barr-Redmon Warehouse alongside the RR tracks in 1884. This probably referred to - Joe Redmon and Michael V. Barr. Barr operated a grain business from 1871 until 1896 in Redmon and was also a teacher.

Willis Brinkerhoff, surveyor; had the elevator that burned in the 1913 fire.

Charles Henn owned the rebuilt elevator; Arch Babb ran it for him. It later burned, too, so he became out -

M. J. Lee, who had the adjacent grain business and lumber yard, as well. Henn sold this elevator to -

Dave Lawson. (The fire bell was overhead in the scalehouse at this elevator.)

About 1930 it belonged to Price and Coolley, or the Brocton Elevator Company. Bill Murphy ran it for some time. Afterward - Des Metcalf managed it.

George Rosser bought it in 1941. Wanda Brown was office clerk; Demmy Milburn and Sherman Hunt handled the grain.



English and crew, 1974; back: Lewis Henderson, Sam Chowning, and Ed. Front: James Shannon, Floyd Newhart, and Alva Harris

Ed English took over this business in '48. His elevator burned in August 1961, and soon afterward the first group of concrete silos were erected by the James Brothers Construction Company. More were added by the Brannick Construction Company in '64 and again three years later. In 1972 Ed had a number of steel bins constructed on the old site of Essinger's Mill.

Some of Ed's crew from past years were:

Tom Vice	Smily Hanner	Clyde Shaefer
Earl Bruce	Larry Newhart	Raymond Barlet
Frank Good	Gerald Butler	Carl Davidson
Don Hanner	Lyle Flenner	Sam Applegate
Walter Trine	Charles Newhart	Robert Horsley
	Woody Luddington	



Ferguson tile factory, jail, stock pens

## Tile Factories

William and John Jacquart, later 1800's, clay tile products. The clay was hauled to the factory from a field on the other side of the Springfield Road. The tile were cut in 12" lengths and stacked in long sheds, then left to dry for a few weeks before being put into the kilns to bake. A few of today's inhabitants remember seeing the glowing red ovens.

Millard Rhoades owned this factory after trading 80 acres of land to the Jacquart Brothers. It shut down in the early 1900's. When the place was falling into ruin, youngsters, like Roy Standly, liked to play hide n' seek, or hunt for rabbits amid the brick-laden rubble.

(During one of its idle times Rhoades' daughter, Jess, kept complaining of an odor coming from inside the building. This finally settled the mystery of Walberg's disappearance. His body was placed in a bag and buried in the Catfish Point Cemetery.)

Hugh Ferguson's products were of concrete. He also sold lumber, gravel, cement, and other building supplies. Arch Marquand, Ivan Brinkerhoff, Oscar McDaniel, and John Jackums were some of his employees.



Rhoades' Tile Factory



West end of Oak Street in early 1900's. Jail on left. Exline home in center. This was taken before the tile factory was built.



Gill's Hardware.

(A) C. H. Lee, Owner, Lumber  
(B) A. C. Lee, Owner, Hardware



Terry Clapp and truck for lumber yard



1952 crew at Kirchner's. Pictured: Don K., Harry and Ed Biggs, Jim White, (behind), Clayton Tyler, Billy K., Gerald Butler, Jim Biggs, Richard Graham, Gene Quillen, Roy Tyler, Barney Hanks, and Clarence Flenner.

In Memory of Bert and Sarah Clapp  
by Terry and Rosalie Clapp

## Redmon Jail

Whether any prisoners were ever held in the town jail is a matter of debate. Hardly any records exist for the earliest days, but there is an item in the Village Board's Records for September 1937 when the jail was sold. Hugh Ferguson paid \$25 for the old bricks, and Lee Brinkerhoff acquired the old lumber from the building for \$10.

## Lumber Yards and Hardwares

Bethel Brill had a hardware business in the early 1900's, then a few years later his son-in-law, Roy Gill, came into the business. It was then known as Brill & Gill. Roy's daughter, Lucille Kirchner, remembers seeing them dip harness in the huge vats of oil in the upper story of the building on the corner when she was a little girl.

Around 1919 the lumber yard, once owned by M. J. Lee, and the Brill & Gill Hardware were taken over by the Kirchner brothers.

Charles Kirchner bought the lumber yard. From 1926-39 it was managed by — Bert Clapp. His son, Terry, drove a Model T Ford truck and delivered for them.

Billy Kirchner ran the hardware, then, sometime in the 20's, took in Ed Biggs as a partner. Ed continued running his filling station-lunch counter until 1932 when he sold it to Bob O'Hair. (Marshall Brackney owned this station after O'Hair and later, Frank Daniels had it.

In the 1930's Kirchner & Biggs brought in the John Deere Implement line, and Ed started selling tractors. In 1953 Billy died, and his son —

Don Kirchner started running the oldest concerns. In the meantime Ed retired, and -

Elton Holding took over the John Deere dealership.

Harry Biggs bought the hardware and lumber yard from Don in 1956. The next year he and Elton became partners and their business became known as Holding & Company. (That it was mistakenly thought of by outside interests as a stock and bond investment company was soon a favorite joke of the management.

In 1962 this enterprise was sold at auction. Lester Thomas bought the buildings, and later sold Minneapolis-Moline machinery then finally turned the place into a motor repair shop. In 1973 he sold the corner building to —

Gary Ingram for a car repair center.

# KIRCHNER & BIGGS

Full Line of

GROCERIES AND MEATS

Hardware and Auto

Accessories

Kirchner & Biggs ad from 1928 *Redmonian*.

In Memory of Elda and Effie Gifford  
by grandchildren, Bernadine, John Elda, Bill, Ramona, Gene, and Marcella



Elliott's Garage

### Blacksmiths

E. B. Thompson & David McCall, 1870's.

Robert M. Cox and John Bundy, 1880's.

E. M. Dowling; also later had a garage.

Ambrose Cain, Watt Poole, and Doug Garrett had the same place for their smithies, at various periods in our history. Cain and Poole were smiths in the early 1900's, Doug came in the 40's,

but went out of business a few years later when too many cars came along instead of horses.

### Livery Stables

Phil Smith, 1904. He rented a horse and buggy for \$1.50 per day; saddle horses for 50¢ each. Corn was 50¢ a bushel; oats, 25¢ and two bales of hay cost 40¢.

Dave Lawson later ran this place, but the livery, telephone office, blacksmith, etc., burned in 1919.

**QUICK SERVICE**  
and  
**QUALITY WORK**  
in  
**SHOE AND HARNESS**  
**REPAIRING**

**Fred Elliot**

Service while you wait if necessary—at moderate prices.

Let US give your car  
proper treatment

**ROY ELLIOT**

Our reliability costs you  
nothing extra and keeps  
your motor good as *new!*

REDMON

ILLINOIS

Ads for Elliott's shoe repairs, and garage: 1928 *Redmonian*





Smith's livery



Past home of Ab Wood, Manager of Redmon's Shipping Association. Now home of his son, Robert, and Doris Wood.

### Livestock Yards; Redmon Shipping Association

William Gano was probably the first stock dealer in the community. The land where his pens were built, though, belonged to the RR.

Later on several area farmers formed a shipping association. Bill Steward managed the yards for some time, then Abner Wood became the overseer. The association bought scales and built a shed, but the land remained property of the RR, as it is now.

Indianapolis markets were much more profitable than local ones, so neighborhood farmers would

contact Ab whenever they had some livestock ready for sale. "He'd keep them in the yards," his son, Shelby recently recalled, "until there were enough calves and hogs from different farmers to make a car load. Then I had to pump water for hours at a time on them hot summer days, 'cause them animals sure did get thirsty."

"The depot agent would let Dad know when the next eastbound freight was due. We'd listen for it to whistle at Trimble's crossing out west, then go down and get 'em ready to load and send 'em out."

Livestock dealers eventually bought their own trucks for transportation, and the shipping association was finally disbanded.

## Carpenters, Plasterers, Painters

Felding L. Sampson, 1880's.

Dozier Pitcher, 1880's.

William Milburn (father,) 1880's; also a plasterer.

Demmy, Paul Milburn (sons.)

Doug Dwyer

Herman Kile built the Schad home in 1915; also remodeled buildings.

Oscar McDaniel and Fred Elliott built Homer Luttrell's house (where Simmonses live today.) Oscar also helped build the Milburn house, the new high school, and Guyers's home. His hog houses dot the farms all about our countryside. Fred, among numerous other jobs, was a cabinet-maker.

Cecil Hinds and Steve Hinds built the Smith, Standly and Stephenson houses in Redmon.

Curt Elliott was the contractor for building Sid Meyer's home (the one where Marie lives now.)

Chris C. Ream finished the interior of the Meyers home; woodwork, floors, walls, and ceilings.

John Graham, Sr. (father.)

James F., Ray, Eddie, John, Jr., and Russell (sons.) All were plasterers. Ray and John, Jr. did the sunburst ceilings in the present Forrest Hamilton home.

## Harness Shops, Shoe and Boot Repair Shops

Jonathan S. Hussey, shoemaker; 1880's. His shop was in the old hall where the first school was held.

C. W. Wooden, Harnessmaker; 1879.

Aquilla "Quiller" Applegate, had a repair shop in the end of the boxcar alongside Essinger's where he worked on harness, or footwear. He also ran the hammer mill for some time.

Fred Elliott, cobbler-carpenter. His shop was on the corner across from Lester's Market.



Wilson's Shaving Parlor - 1908. Pictured: Orion Jones, Lou Snoddy, and Walter Wilson.  
(Note old Methodist Church on left).

In Memory of John and Caroline Mason  
by Ken Mason, grandson

## Barbers

Charles Stillian

Walter Wilson had a shop in the east end of town that burned in the early 1900's. He moved to the west end, but that place burned in the "great fire." His third shop was where —

Ernest "Skinny" Deremiah served as apprentice for two years before starting on his own.

Another barber shop was located in a room adjoining Elliott's carpenter shop.

Some of the following were in this shop at different periods:

Homer Mood	Herby Wilson	Bruce Wilson
Kermit Snider	Hervie McCulley	Frank Wilson

James E. Jackson was our last barber, and was in Skinny's old shop by the PO.

## Ditcher and Tile Layers

Mike Kuch

Frank Bertram

## Sheep Shearers

Owen Baker

Walter English

## Undertakers

Will Henn was assistant for Cooks undertakers in Paris, and kept a hearse in the livery barn here for many years.

## Insurance Agents

Carson Henn, 1921-26

Don Shoddy, 1920's

Lee Allen Brinkerhoff, 1960's

## Milliners & Dressmakers

Ida Rodgers

Lottie Woolery, Milliner

Essie Garrett

Cassie McDaniel

Theodore "Ted" McCord

Leona Turner

## Shelter Care Centers

Carter's Shelter Care Homes, Inc.

Some of the employees at Nick Carter's are:

Lee Newcomer

Lola Boyer

Mary Lou Krable

Ira Boyer

Ramona Markewitz

Clarence Flenner

Shirley Carrington

Marie St. Clair



Owen Baker shearing sheep



Shelter Care Center - old school

Linda Sherer	Lois Calvin
Pat Ray	Joan Guyer
David Green	Louise White
Marge Hance	Fern Wimsett
Grace Wardell	Ailen Miller
Becky Ludington	Louise Hamilton
Melinda Dickson	Ella Grant

Etta Mae Harrison

### Telephone Switchboards

The telephone company was first managed by John Henn, and Lottie Woolery ran the switchboard in a little building where today's town house sets. The building burned in 1919.

After that the office was moved into the upper story of the bank building.

Mahala Bell ran it for about a year, then -

Sylvia Elledge and her daughter, Marie, ran it from around '20 - '30.



Old telephone office run by Lottie Woolery until it burned in 1919.



Smith's hotel.

Edgar County, Ill.  
George A. Ogil & Company, Publishers, Chicago

### Hotels, Boarding Houses

Phil and Ella Smith ran a hotel in the middle of town during the early 1900's. Drummers, lightning rod salesmen, and horse traders from out of state were frequent boarders. Their families often came with them, and lasting friendships were made.

Ed and Beulah Osborn ran a boarding house in Redmon for many years.

Nell Downs had a boarding house where Louis Boyer's home is. This house and Baker's next door were built by the Downs family in the late 1880's.

A number of teachers and students in our schools roomed at the Meyers homes.

### Garages, Mechanics, Welders

Grover Perisho had a garage in the old livery barn about 1914.

Roy Standly and Herman Kile bought him out in 1916. They, in turn, sold to -

Dave Lawson. Earl Milam worked there in 1918.

The three enterprises above were known as the Redmon Auto Co.

Roy Standly built his first repair and welding shop (where Milams live) in 1903. Sixteen years later he and his wife Belva went to the country. "but it was too lonesome for her," Roy said. So they moved to the site he now owns and the next spring had the garage built where he did welding and machine repair work until his retirement in 1968.

Glenn Moody had a car repair shop in the 40's, where North's Equipment Company is.

Roy and "Stoke" Elliott had a garage in 1928 on the lot now owned by Barney Hanks.

In Memory of Paul "Dick" White  
by Glenn L. White, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice White



Ingram's shop - 1974

Vince and Rex Davis later had this place.

Gary Ingram now runs a car repair shop on the main street of town. (All of the above had gas pumps, and sold oil and tires.)

#### **Fuel Servicemen**

Clarence Ogden drove an Edgar County Supply Company service truck from 1936 to '59, delivering fuel and oil to farmers throughout a wide area of this community.

Cliff and Elmer Finley drove trucks for the National Oil Refineries.

#### **Radio, TV Repairman &/or Electrician**

James "Finny" Graham had a radio repair shop at his home, then bought one of the first TV's in this region and began servicing televisions.

R. E. "Gene" Lester keeps his repair shop and electrician's tools in a van—"Have van Will travel?"

Earl Ray is another electrician: services household appliances, or does wiring.

#### **Depot Agents & Telegraphers**

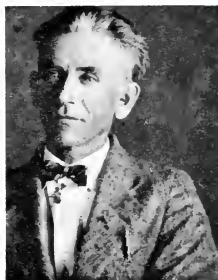
Jonathan S. Hussey, 1880's	L. Hanshman, 1880
Florence Ford	Jim Crawford
Frank Wilson	Walter Wilson
Otis "Ote" Gurley	Lawrence Buckler
Ralph Redfern R	Ernest Tessman
Homer W. Humphrey, telegrapher for 20 years in the early 1900's.	

#### **Machinery & Auto Dealers**

Amrose Cain and Watt Poole, Buckeye Harvesting Machinery

Chauncey Cooper, Minneapolis-Moline Co.; 1935-48. His son Joe said recently, "Dad bought his first Minneapolis-Moline tractor about 1934 and liked it so well he decided to start selling them. He was the first dealer in the area, so his territory covered all of Edgar, and parts" of surrounding counties, as well. He also had a service department.

"Sparky" Dennison and Maurice Arnold, Allis Chalmers Co. 1935-36. (Sparky sponsored an independent basketball team while he lived in Redmon. Such people as today's well-known Harry Combs, Jim Vopika, and Bob Cotton



Homer Humphrey, Depot Agent

played on the team, coming from their classes at the U of I in Champaign. They went to state at Collinsville and won 2nd place in the Independent Tournament. Redmon was also host to a team from Hawaii when this group played ball.)

Billy Kirchner and Ed Biggs, John Deere Co.; 1930's-53.

Lee Brinkerhoff, Oliver Machinery Co.; 1950's.

Lester Thomas, Minneapolis-Moline Co.; 1960's.

Art North, North Equipment Co.; feeding equipment; 1970's.

Some of Art's crew:

Roy Tyler  
Bill Newman  
Mike Brannick  
Rick Blanford  
Dale Muchow  
Joe Biemick  
Gene Layton  
Gene Hutson  
Wayne Fox

Curt Brinkerhoff  
Mark Davis  
Ralph Baker  
Paul Scott  
Arlie Muchow  
Harold Collins  
Robert Hutson  
Mark Reeley  
Dean Muchow

#### Fertilizer Dealers

Wayne Wright, Redmon Soil Service; 1960's.

#### Auction Houses

Lee Brinkerhoff and Gene Hiatt; fire destroyed their first building in '63, so they moved their sales to the place now owned by Gary Ingram.

#### Veterinarians

Cal Standly was a vet in the 1880's and early 90's.

Dr. Hugh Herron had a practice in this area, built an office on the lot behind where Harry Biggs now lives, but later used it for a Sale Barn.

Afterward the doctor let out brood sows to farmers who wanted a start in the hog business, but couldn't afford to buy them. His return? Two pigs at weining time, or one hundred-pound shoat.

Dr. ? Brown

Asa McDaniel practiced veterinary medicine here at different times of his life.

Dr. Will N. Hausser, 1926-34; had the drug store and office in with the PO. (During his ownership Lew Winn and Glenn Gifford ran it.) Dr. Hausser's office girl in the late 20's was Marie Elledge.

<p><b>Dr. Will N. Hausser</b></p> <p>Veterinarian</p> <p>Drugs and Sundries</p> <p>REDMON ILLINOIS</p>	<p><b>T. W. POOLE</b></p> <p>General Blacksmithing and Horseshoeing</p> <p>Red Crown Gas and Oil</p> <p>REDMON ILLINOIS</p>
--	---

Ads for Dr. Hausser and Poole's Blacksmith Shop. 1928

*Redmonian.*

In Memory of Will and Ada Daugherty  
by Delorus Cooksey, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Daugherty



Buckeye Harvesting Machinery. Pictured: T. W. Poole,  
Ambrose Cain.

His daughter, Lucille H. Pryer, said, "Although I thought it was the good life then, I look back and wonder how we survived. Often the farmers had to pay their veterinary bills with pigs, chickens, eggs, etc. We raised chickens in our back yard, along with a productive garden and kept livestock" for meat in the old Ferguson tile factory.

### Photographers

Horace Fulwider; traveling photographer in the community. As Glenn Barr recalled, "He was called to all surrounding gatherings and family reunions for pictures. Carpet would often be tacked to the side of a building for background



John Deere tractors 1937.

Then he'd assemble the group, go to the cloth that hid the light from the camera, and ask for quietness, or tell the children to listen for the birdie. Then he'd snap the photo. Three days later they'd come out of his dark room at home in beautiful shape."

## NORTH & FOX

Dealers in

HIGH GRADE  
KENTUCKY COAL

and

ADRIAN WIRE FENCE

REDMON

ILLINOIS

Phones 291 or 722

North & Fox ad from 1928 *Redmonian*.



He was also an inventor. Among other things he made the first phonograph, although he failed to get a patent on it. "A good sight was to see him at the county fairs," Glenn related, "selling listening time for five cents, with one ear plug to a customer. There was always a waiting line to hear the Redmon band playing 'Ole King Cotton.'"

Virgie Baker, Baker's Studio; mid-1900's.

## Beauty Shops

Louise Elliott

Willodean Tyler

Carolyn Hunter

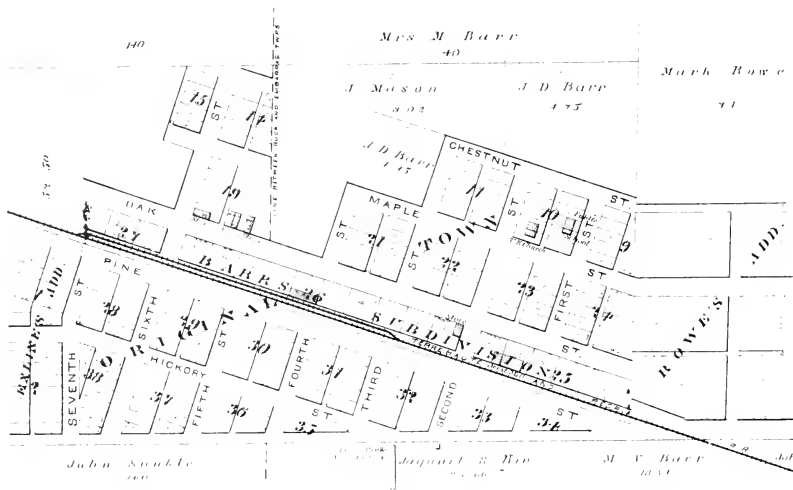
Carolyn Hiatt

Mary Brannick, Mary's Shop

Lydia McIntosh

## Laundromats

Wayne and John Wright started the Wright-Way Laundry in Jump's old store building in the 60's.







Mary Brannick and her shop

## Physicians

John R. Young, 1889      William Knight, 1880

Dr. Mark Rowe, 1875-1910; we've already heard about this community-minded man in the town's development.

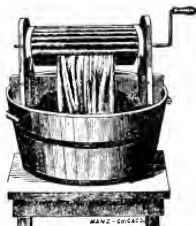
Dr. D. D. Roberts, 1884-1901; served this vicinity as physician, surgeon, and coroner.

Dr. William S. Jones, 1894-1949.

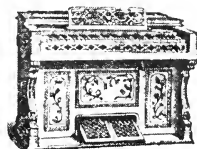
Dr. Samuel C. Lorton spent two summers between years studying for his MD in the early 1900's with the Joneses.



**THE Julien churn and butter worker from May 25, 1873 *Prairie Farmer*.**



Calkins' washer, from May 25, 1872, issue of *Prairie Farmer*.



Western Cottage Organ  
*Prairie Farmer*  
April 17, 1869

As a friend, Dr. Lorton was asked by the old doctor to provide the eulogy at his funeral. "My feeling was," Dr. Lorton wrote later, "that it will be the hardest thing in my life, but his wishes will be respected . . . One who has given his life in following the true sense of what being a family doctor means and has lived more for others than himself should have his final requests granted."

Before that, in 1929, Alice Milburn, the Jones' housekeeper (and Harold's mother,) wrote an article about her employer that was published in

the June 8th issue of the *Prairie Farmer Magazine*. She ended it with these words:

"Hardly could two generations in one community owe to one citizen more than we owe to Doctor Jones. When he shall have passed on, who shall be worthy or qualified to take his place?"

It seems no one has dared, because this rural village has been without a physician since the Doctor's retirement. Perhaps that's part of the reason the Centennial Steering Committee decided he should be given special recognition in our history.

---

### DR. W. S. JONES

#### AN ACCOUNT OF HIS LIFE

Many articles have been written by friends and acquaintances of this man during his lifetime, and this author doesn't feel qualified to equal those words. Therefore we'll only bring certain facts up to date and learn of the life of William Shields Jones through others.

The first excerpts are from Mrs. Milburn's 1929 biography.

Dr. Jones "was born within one-half mile of what is now May's Station in Buck township, July 21, 1863, the oldest of a family of 12 children. His father, Lewis, was a farmer. The son

grew up on the farm, did farm work till he was 21, meanwhile attending common school in what was then his home district, Nevins, Illinois, finishing with a year in Terre Haute (Ind.) Normal and Business School. In September following his 21st birthday he began teaching his first school on a second-grade certificate in the district adjoining his home school district, then to summer normal and continued teaching and studying for three years, at the end of which time he was awarded a first-grade certificate and for five years thereafter held the position of principal in the Redmon grade schools.



Dr. Jones' family and home. X marks his office, today the home of Carolyn and Bill Combs.

"In August, 1886, he married Mary E. Henn, the daughter of a local farmer, took up his residence in Redmon five miles from his birth place and has never changed it. . . .

"His four years of preparation for his chosen profession were spent in the Kentucky School of Medicine and Louisville Medical College, both in Louisville, Kentucky. After graduating in June, 1893, he spent the then required three months of hospital service in Louisville City Hospital. Returning to his home in Redmon he established there the practice he holds today and which he bids fair to hold for many years to come, for this young 'old Doc Jones' of ours is alive to his toe and fingertips.

"The substantial but picturesque and modern

home of Dr. Jones has long been a land mark on 'Main St.' It is an ideal country home, with a wide expanse of green lawn, vegetable and flower gardens, a magnificent grape arbor, and a flock of contented Buff Orpingtons [chickens; all of which he helped care for.] On a corner of the lawn facing south, stands the office, a scientifically equipped four-room emergency hospital, the big south window of the reception room colorful with blooming verdure the year round. That room has served as stage for the comedy and tragedy and drama of human life as well as for the business interests of the people—meetings of clergy and stockmen and town council and school board; and for emergency surgical cases. It has even served as a morgue.



Mae at home.

"The Doctor says: 'I've always taken a pride in my home town and community.' And his long record as moving spirit in every worthwhile activity bears him out.

"The first telephone exchange in Redmon was installed in his home and operated by his wife, who is and has always been, the doctor's right hand. Always on call to his patients, assisting in emergency cases at the office in lieu of nurses, and maintaining the highest ideal of home life with sincere and simple dignity, she has glorified his practice as a physician and his service as

a minister. Their two sons are both successful physicians and useful citizens—irrefutable argument in favor of old-fashioned discipline, for these boys were brought up strictly in fear of God and parental authority.

"Instead of gravitation to some educational center as he might have done, the doctor sent his boys away to high school and college and began a determined and systematic campaign for a community high school. After 10 years his dream became a reality. The new school is the pride of the town and countryside; and though



Jones family group.  
Pictured: Dr. W. S. Jones, Mae, Orion, and Walter.

'Rev. Jones' says grace at the annual banquet with fitting solemnity, its 'Doc Jones' who yells like the noisiest freshie when our basket-ball teams romp home to victory on the floor of the new gymnasium.

"The country doctor is passing," he says, "but the family physician never will. His scope of activity must, of course, be modified to fit the times. The country doctor is far more to a family than a medical advisor. He is judge and dictator and sympathizer and recipient of confidences inviolate. Between him and his people there is a relationship unlike any other; ties that could not be severed without pain to them and to him; deep-rooted love that only God can understand. I'd rather have the regard of these trusting friends and a good name among them than city advantages without country life."

By the time he supposedly retired from practice in 1945, after beginning 51 years before in the same town, he had delivered 3,191 babies: "including 11 pairs of twins, and one set of triplets," as he told H. P. Twyman in an interview for the *Paris Beacon-News* in November 1944. He had also frequently delivered children of the

second generation; a few were even born in the same house as the first generation had been.

To continue with Mr. Twyman's story:

"Dr. Jones was ordained a Baptist minister when he became 21. For 40 years he has been the pastor of Sugar Creek Baptist Church at Nevins and for 10 years, of the Providence Church south of Isabel. He has held divine services on innumerable occasions and has been called upon from far and wide to officiate at something like 1200 funerals.

"Exercising his prerogative as a minister, he has united in marriage possibly 900 couples over the years.

"... this does not nearly cover Dr. Jones' activities during a long and useful life, which has been virtually free of illness, although he does recall that about 12 years ago he had an attack of influenza.

"The worthy doctor has served as president for two terms of both the Aesculapian Society of the Wabash Valley and of the Edgar County Medical Society."

Sunday Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 1918

Wm. Smith	Self	2.00
Mary Smith	Mad. all hands	5.00
Fitch Burnham	" " " "	3.50
Wiley Todd	" " " "	3.00
Ernest Burton	" " " "	3.50
John Phil	" " " "	1.00
Melvin Hopner	" " " "	1.00
Thom. Duvall	" " " "	.75

Monday

Ben McGee	Whitaker	4.50
Ed Butler	- Mathe	1.00
Joe Melville	- Mathe	2.00
Wm. H. Jones	- Mathe	1.00
Al. Smith	- Mathe	1.00
Frank Daniels	" " "	1.00
Walter Wilson	- Mathe	1.50
Ray Bill	- Mathe	1.60
Charlesinger	- Mathe	1.50
Wm. H. Jones	- Mathe	1.00
Wm. H. Jones	- Mathe	3.50

A page from Dr. Jones' ledger

He served as coroner of Edgar County (with Walter "Jake" Jump as Deputy Coroner,) school treasurer, school director, and, over the years, was a trustee in each of the schools in Buck Township. He also was a member of the village board of Redmon, the town he lived in for 65 years.

In 1936 William and Mary, or Mae as everyone called her, celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary with a dinner for special friends and relatives at the Methodist Church and open house in their home that afternoon. In March 1943 Mary E. Henn Jones preceded her beloved husband in death.

The Doctor remained in his home for a few more years; alone, but content. When the beckoning angel came, on October 10, 1949, perhaps his last thoughts were as Dr. Lorton wrote in his eulogy- the same as Apostle Paul had said:

"I have fought a good fight. I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."

How many today would be able to live the pace Dr. Jones set for himself, then truthfully say the same?



Dr. and Mae Jones in 1936 - 50th wedding anniversary.

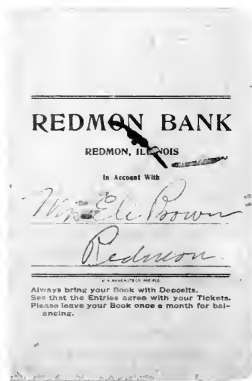
## REDMON BANK

Elmer O. Snoddy opened the first, and only, bank Redmon ever had in October 1905. From his daughter, Evea Snoddy Lorton (who worked in the business with her father until her marriage to Dr. Lorton) we have this information.

"We came to Illinois in October 1904 from Coal Creek, Ind. Father built the bank that summer and it opened in the fall. Being a private bank, as many were in those days, there were few officers. Later, when it became Redmon State Bank, C. R. Jump and Howard Van Auken came in as bank directors, with Father remaining president. John Mason, Jr. also was one who was associated with us."

In the early 1900's when Joseph G. Cannon was a congressman, the bank was the site of a political rally. According to Owen "Mike" Sunkel, a student at the time, "The entire school was let out so we could listen to 'Uncle Joe' speak," he said.

"On May 29, 1934," Mrs. Lorton continued.



Redmon Bank Account Book

Sunday Dec 1 <sup>st</sup> 1918			
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Mary Smith	Wm. & Maud		5.00
Fitch Bunker	" " "		3.50
Wiley Todd	" " "		3.00
Ernest Burton	" "		3.50
John Phil	" " "		1.00
Melvin Hopner	" " "		1.00
Thos. D. D. D.	" " "		.75
Monday			
Ben McGee	Whitaker		1.50
Ed Butler	- Mathe		1.00
Jas. M. M.	mathe		2.00
Wm. M.	- Mathe		1.00
Al. L. M.	- Mathe		1.00
Frank Daniels	" Mathe		1.00
Walter M.	- Mathe		1.50
Ray Lill	Mathe		1.60
Wm. M.	- Mathe		1.50
Wm. M.	- Mathe		1.00
Wm. M.	- Mathe		3.50

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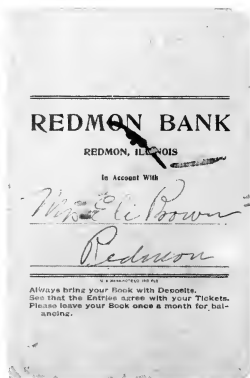
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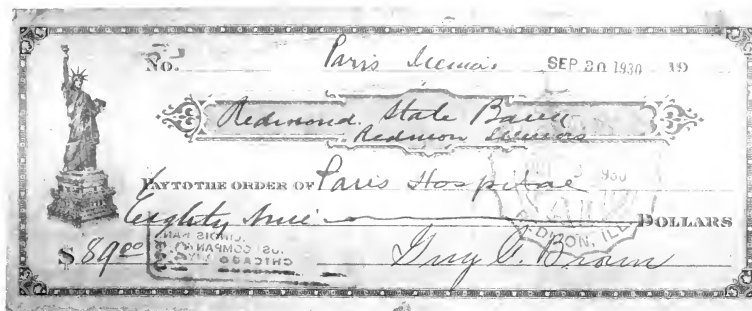
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"On May 29, 1934," Mrs. Lorton continued,



Redmon Bank Account Book





Check on Redmon Bank



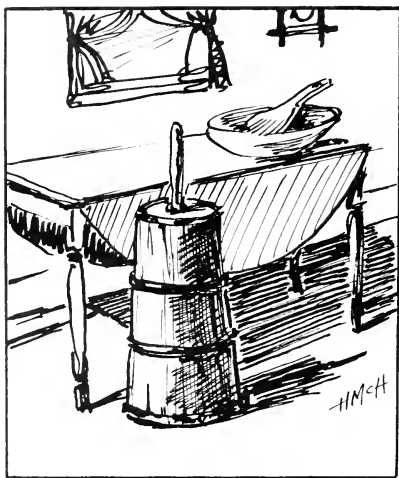
Redmon bank and political rally for Uncle Joe Cannon.

Father decided to have the bank liquidated and paid all depositors. He had been in business there almost 30 years."

From other sources we learned that notes held by the bank against loans were taken over by

private parties; Mr. Van Auker, and probably others, assumed the responsibility of collecting these debts. Consequently, though the depression caused difficulties, the bank remained stable throughout its existence.

## Old Homes and People



"Old Times."

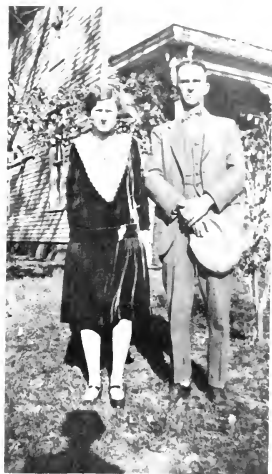


Roy and Belva Standly's home.

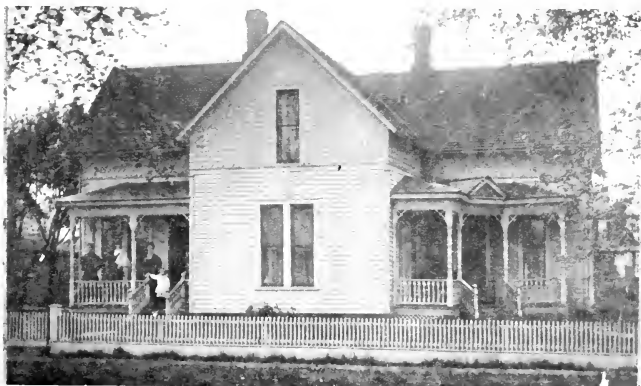


Frank Essinger's home:

(Mts. of Edgar County, Illinois)  
A. D. & C. Company, Publishers, Chicago.



Belva and Roy Standly.



Charles Junn's home (now home of Jane Trine)

In Memory of Sandford Douglas Metcalf  
by Hazel and June Metcalf, Mary Roell, Joseph Metcalf



George Luttrell home; now site of Virgil Simmons home.  
 Pictured: George and Lizzie Luttrell and sister Nora.



Sid Meyers home; now Marie's.



Applegate house next to Holiness Church.  
 Pictured: Mrs. Applegate holding Elmer; Alice, Henry - 1895.



Applegate family. Pictured: (front) Alice, Gert, Hattie, Willis, Aquilla, Elmer.  
 Top: Mary, Ellen, Sam, Stephen, Henry



Earl Gifford family.  
 Pictured: John, Earl, Lillian, Bernadine.

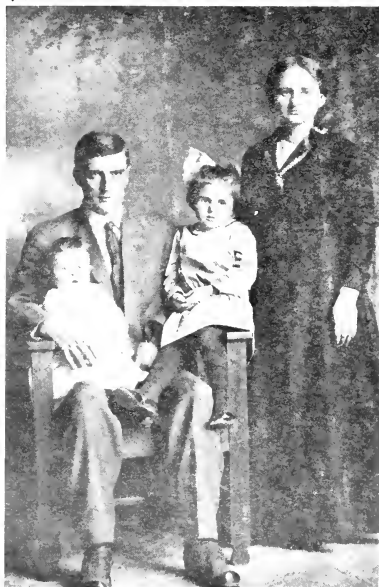
In Memory of Nelle Grace Weaver Jones and Walter Raymond Jones  
 by Mary Edith Jones Penington and Ralph A. Penington



Eli Brown, Sr. family. Pictured: Savilla, Ora, Ethel, Claude, Eli Sr., and Guy.  
Standing - Katie (Brackney,) Irvin, and Cora.



Elda and Effie Gifford.



Meloy family. Pictured Gladys, Jesse, Fern, and Jessie



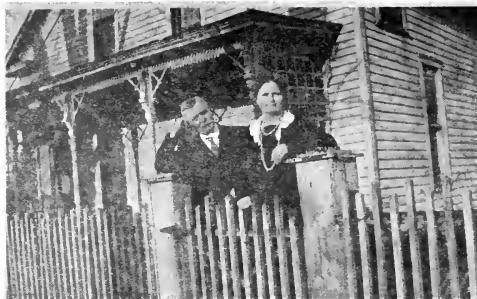
At Milt Meyers' house. Seated, left to right: Charles, Blanche and Suzanne; Bernard and Walter; Lydia; Charles Baker; Rebecca Ousley and granddaughter Mary; Ella Smith, Junior Ogden, Vineta Ogden holding Harriet Morris. Second row: Scott Baker, Don Morris, Phil Smith, Sid and Celia, Mary, Mabel Baker, Erma Smith, Marie and Eileen. Back row: Charles Ousley, Carl Ogden, Sr., Glenn Ousley, Ora Rhoades, Milt, Maud, Allie Rhoads, Grace, and Helen Ousley.



Leonard and Flora Jones



Charles Barr home, now Wayne Wright's



Home of Ed and Beulah Osborn with them standing by fence.



The John Henn house that burned in 1925.



The old Zeigler home; now the home of Alva Harris.





Home owned by Mrs. Andrew Jump.  
 Pictured: (left to right) Mrs. Andrew Jump, Martha, Charles, Nancy, Harold, and Walter  
 in carriage.



Mason home built about 1884; now Herman Kile's.  
 Pictured: J. W., Maggie Osborn, John and Caroline Mason.

In Memory of Horace M. and Cora Fulwider  
 by children, Harry, Bruce, Minnie, Prudence, and Charles



McDaniel home in 1901; later the home of Mrs. Richey.  
 Pictured: Grandmother Elizabeth McDaniel, Emma McDaniel and children.



McDaniel family. Pictured seated: Elsie, Josiah and Emma with Raymond, Chauncey.  
 Standing: Marie, Oscar, and Willie.

In Memory of Clive Chesrown  
 by wife, Marjorie, and children, Juanita, Norma, James W., Patricia,  
 Clive T., and families.



Rodgers family. Pictured back row left to right: Ruth, Effie, "Little" Goldie, Cassie, "Big" Goldie Rodgers. Seated left to right: Forrest on lap of Charles Tresner, and wife Ollie with son Bill, William and Ida Alexander Rodgers, Lissie and Wayne on lap, and husband Lafe Turnipseed, Arnold and Maurice, sons of Orin and "Big" Goldie.



Fred Elliott family. Pictured: Louise, Fred, Lucille, and Alma.

In Memory of Dr. and Mrs. Walter Raymond Jones  
by Walter Robert Jones.



John and Cass Henn family. Pictured standing: Mae, Frank Foltz, Sue, Orion, Ida H Foltz, Dr. Jones, Lizzie, Ora, and Will (the undertaker). Seated: Cass and John.



Brown, Combs, and Tiffin families. Pictured bottom, left to right: Guy Brown, Hazel Amos, and Rhoda Tiffin, Claude Brown, Myrtle Tiffin. Second row, left to right: Savilla C. Brown, Mary C. Tiffin, Arthur, Lillie and Charles Combs, Katie C. Brackney, Cora B. Lacy. Third row, left to right: Eli Brown, Charles Tiffin, Irvin Brown, Durnham, Rosa Combs and daughter, Marshall Brackney, Jim Lacy. Back Row, left to right: Leah Brackney, Lee Combs, Art Tiffin, and Kathryn Combs.



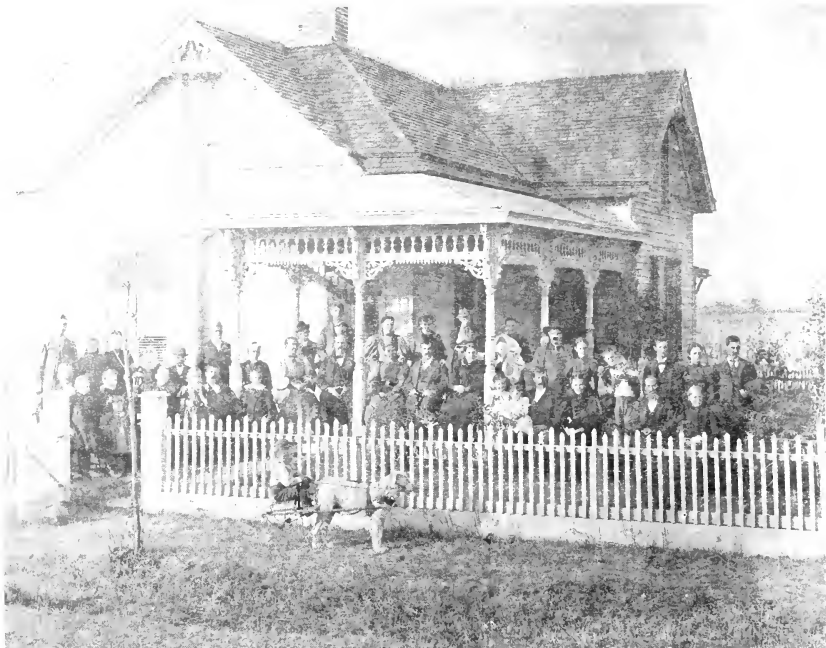
House built by Henc Williams in late 1800's. Ola Henn and Siebert Brinkerhoff moved into it as newlyweds in 1907. Pictured: Ola, Siebert, Mr. and Mrs. Hadaway (Minister) Mrs. Christine Henn, Leora Young, Maude Davis (Patchett), Minnie Young (Lindsey), Susie Brinkerhoff, Lottie Woolery, Phillip Henn, Emma M. Exline, Mrs. Bell Pierce, Great grandmother Rhoda Brinkerhoff, and Albert.



ROSS FAMILY, 1906.

Pictured: Top Row – Charlie and Pearle Gardner, Oris Ross, Gertie and Will.  
Bottom Row: William and Delilah Ross, Josie, Jim Gardner, Lillian, and Madge in buggy.

In Memory of J. L. and Dessie Conley  
by Mr. and Mrs. Russell Conley.



Brinkerhoff reunion at Grandma Rhoda's in 1897; now the home of Mrs. Lee Brinkerhoff. Pictured: Seated—Dr. Edward, Bertha, Kate & John, Mrs. Rowe, Susan and Albert, Minta and Willis, Rhoda, Henry and Alice, James and Anna Chopteaugh. Children in front—Bessie and Helen, Etta and Louis, Lula and Gertrude. Standing—William, Ethel, and Rosa, ———, Everett, Dr. Rowe, Siebert and Arthur, Bertha Hickman and Ivan, ———, Emma and Baby Leona, Charles, Rhoda Chopteaugh, Callie Gardner and James, Win, Kate, and Henry Chopteaugh. Young "Doc" Roberts on dogcart.



Charlie "Cap" Lamb and team.



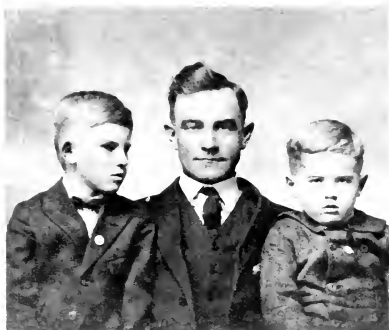
Applegate home in latter years.  
In the yard—Sam and a niece.



H. H. Brinkerhoff residence,  
now home of Dean North.  
(Atlas of Edgar County, Illinois)



Bert Clapp's home; now Sam Miller's.



Homer Luttrell and his sons, Byron and Gene.



"Bib" Cline residence—Originally home of  
Emanuel Meyers—Destroyed in 1966 by a tornado.



On steps of Methodist Church. Pictured: Top—Joe  
Nowatka, Roy Lamb, Herbie Wilson, Leffie Crow-  
der, and Willie McDaniel. (Note button shoes.)



Zella and Zona Conley in 1902.



Charles Henn.



Gathering at Charles Henn Grain business.





House east of bank, now Chowning's residence.



Taken at Christian Church before it was completed in 1907.  
 Pictured: left to right—Beulah Osborn, Mrs. and Mr. Albert  
 Brinkerhoff, Siebert and Ola Brinkerhoff, Belle Pierce,  
 Harriet and Arthur Brinkerhoff.



Lee Allen and Kathryn Brinkerhoff.

In Honor of Carl A. and Vineta Ogden  
 by Carl, Jr. and Bernadine Ogden, Scott, Jack and Pat Ogden Eckerty,  
 Mike and Donna Ogden Eads



Louis Albert Henn.



William and Margaretta Waller who emigrated with their family from Ohio in 1863.



Simon Lindsey's home; now Tom Mattingly's. Pictured: Simon, Dovie, Tess, and Roy.



At the old Emanuel Meyers homestead. Pictured: Meyers, Ousley, and Smith families. (Brick for this house, built about 1853, was made at Paris. A barn was built across the road with rocks for the lower walls and foundation hauled from Pennsylvania on a flatcar.)

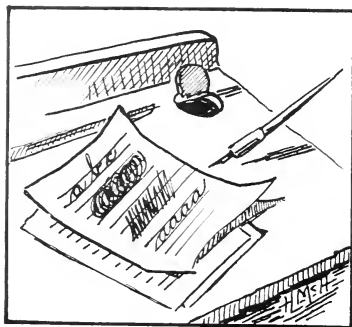


Foltz family in their first car. Pictured in front: George Perry and Mary Catherine Foltz. Behind: Oscar, Edna Wright, Dora, Verna, Ora, and Alva Wright.

In Memory of Charles and Maude Milam  
by Leota Milam Keltz, Hazel Milam Knoepfel, Lois Milam Collier, George Milam,  
Charles E. Milam, Marjorie Milam Fulton.

# III

## INSTITUTIONS



## Schools, Sports, etc.

Initial attempts for education were made in the Catfish settlement in 1834, in an unoccupied cabin. Later a log cabin was built north of the Embarrass Cemetery site for the dual purpose of school and religion. For about 20 years families paid a tuition of \$1 - 1.50 per child for a three month term of school. If there were several children from one family—such as the Lansdowns who boasted of 24—the fee was slightly reduced. The arrangement also included the board of the teacher at each family's residence for a time.

In the earliest years students probably learned only to read, write, and spell. Later, at least by the 1890's, geography, history, arithmetic and physiology had been added to their lessons. In LeBaron's 1879 History we find also by that time *"The little old log cabins, with puncheon seats and oiled-paper windows"* had disappeared, *"and, in their places, we find neat, white, modern schoolhouses, . . . with comfortable seats and desks, blackboards,"* and other comforts.



Independence School, about 1919. Pictured: Verna Foltz.



Catfish School pupils in 1901. Pictured: Back row—Iva White, teacher, Will Lauher, Tom L., Earl Brown, ———, ———, C. Thompson, Minnie Hollis, Rosa Clark, Ada Brown, Nellie Richey, ———, Beulah Richey, and Tom Proscie. Front row—Gladys Borton, Ellis Brown, ———, Eva Crawford, Florence Clark, Grace Sherer, Pearl Brown, ———, ———, and ———.



Catfish School—1903. Pictured: Back row—C. Thompson, Ada Brown, Tom Lauher, Scott Proscie, Jenny Green, teacher, Earl Brown, Jesse Stokes, Nora Brown and Minnie Hollis. Middle row—Fern Zimmerman, Benny Clark, Pearl Brown, Florence Clark, Grace Sherer, Mary Proscie, Victor and ——— Richards. Front row—Goldie Clark, Ellis Brown and Gladys Borton.



Henn School. Children include: Leonard Waller, Mona Brummett, Ivan Brummett, Roy Helton, Exie Helton, Freda Wolford, Emma Waller, Marie Adams, Bertha Waller, — — — Whitehead, Daisy Adams, Henry Waller, Cecil Whitehead, Paul Waller, and Carl Waller. The man on left, ———. The teacher, Roy Hall, pictured at right.

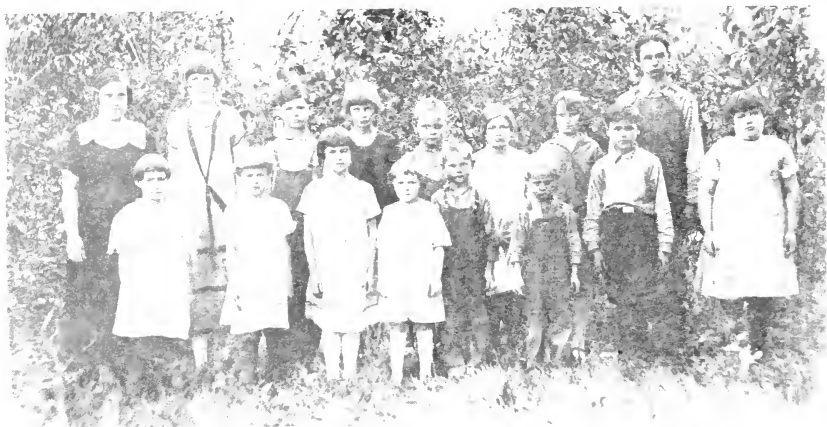
These “modern” schools came into existence after 1855 when the state passed a law providing free schools to any resident of Illinois between the ages of 6 and 21. A few of the oldest students

were problems at times. When a young man reached 20 or 21, he was often taller than his teacher, and not even those with canes could always control a strong-minded pioneer youth.



Baltimore School in 1890's; now the home of Bill Blair. Pictured: Chesrowns, Trimble, Fergusons, Stephensons, and others.

In Memory of John and Callie Graham  
by Lois Vandygriff.



Baltimore School pupils in 1924-25. Pictured: Back row, left to right: Prudence Fulwider, teacher, Mildred Davis, Dan McCarty, Edith McCarty, Art McCarty, HALEEN Tyler, Opal Davis, and Jack McCarty. Front row: Willodean Tyler, Dorothy Eskew, Ruth Eskew, Lois Trimble, Bill McCarty, Dick McCarty, Alva Eskew, and Dorothy Baird.



Barnett School in late 1890's. This first building, located at northwest corner of Charles F. North's farm, burned. Pictured: Back row, left to right: Arthur Brinkerhoff, Irvin Brown, Oris Ross, Mark Davidson, Belle Meyers, teacher; Sam Waltz, Nora Caudit, Josie Ross. Middle row: Siebert Brinkerhoff, Chris Weltsy, Homer Luttrell, Cora Brown, Tillie Fox, Pearl Burnham, Flossie Cuppy, Ethel Brown. Front row—Ora Brown, Elsie Rodgers, Luther Martin, Bertha \_\_\_\_\_, Clemie Martin, Harriett Ross, Charlie Fox, Maude Rhodes, Fred Burnham, and Julie Rhodes.



A plan for free schools in the townships was charted with four sections of land to each school district. These were gradually re-divided or consolidated, but not less than 10 families could be left in any one district. Heated controversies occurred occasionally over issues between people in existing areas and those who proposed changes. The County Superintendent of Schools had to step in once in awhile to make the final decision.

As districts were changed, so were the locations of schools. Barnett, for example, was first built in front of the old John Sullivan house, where Mrs. Bernard Sullivan lives today. In the 70's it was placed on an acre of land at the SW corner of the pasture surrounding the present home of Eli Brown, and a decade or so later, it was at the NW corner of the next block south; on the old Abe Fox farm, thus gaining the name of Fox School.



1918 Barnett (Fox) School, second building that burned in 1938. Pictured: People include Charles Fox, Perry Martin, Elijah Milburn, Fred Hanline, teacher; Hilda, Ethel and Phillip Milburn, Mrs. Sarah Fox, Mrs. Mattie Chesrown, Mrs. Maud Martin, Frank Fox, Genevieve Chesrown, Marjorie Martin, Mrs. Alice Milburn, Omer Martin, and Betty Chesrown.

The first building there burned. A new one was erected, but it burned, too (on Eli's 6th birthday. How about that for a little boy's wish come

true?) The last Barnett School was the building most recently known of as the home of Bob and Mary Kay North, atop the hill north of Redmon.

# Record of Proceedings of Township Trustees.

## Exhibit A.

The the undersigned, being true friends of the legal voters in the territory herein described petition the trustees of School of Township, fourteen North Range Thirteen west, of the second principal Meridian in the county of Edgcor in the State of Illinois to make a new school District of said territory namely, - Section 21-22-27 and 28, in said Township, 14 North Range 13 west, of the second principal Meridian in the said county of Edgcor and we declare that said school district will not have less than ten families resident in it, and that no district from which the territory will be taken will be left with less than ten families in it.

W. L. Rhodes

Frank Essinger

Willie Brimbuehoff

J. M. Lewis

Ellis Brill

E. H. Wendell

F. A. Sampson

William Johnson

John Mason

J. M. Mason

R. E. Standley

B. Brill

J. H. Hyman

L. W. Bell

Douglas Kilburn

Nicholas Kersch

Irving E. Foltz

Harner Wood

H. H. Leach

L. G. Buschler

W. J. Barn

A. Fehner

Frank Bertram

Hence Williams

L. M. Daniel

L. W. Ashmun

A. L. Elliott

Grant W. Daniel

Henry Mason

Francis Foltz

W. Evans

John Sunkle

William R. Dyer

W. Barrett

Robt Crowder

W. A. Jones

H. F. Luttrell

S. E. Wagon

Curtis Elliott

Charles Bates

Joseph W. Daniel

Curtis Boldar

John Bertrane

A. Appelgate

Joseph

W. Jones

A. F. Lamb

Amos W. Hardy

J. P. McCully

F. W. Dore

Calvin Arnold

F. H. Cline

Wm Richards

A. H. Sample

Wm Bates

Geo. F. Sims

E. Hally

John M. Ryan

Jacob C. Shire

Hanson Thompson

L. H. Early

John H. Heene

W. H. Manning

Mark. Rowe

Melvin Dyer

Edmond Waller

W. D. Wagon

A. Carr

J. F. Fralor

Frank Heene

J. J. Newcomer

John Hall

Chas. Bell

C. R. Durr

Isaac A. Leach

Filed in my office  
this 12 day of March  
A. D. 1902

Attest Willie Brimbuehoff  
clerk



Merkle School and pupils, 1914. Pictured: Back row, left to right - Clayton Tyler, Chester Arbuckle, ———, Fern Chesrown, Lillian Barr, Florence Barr, Esthel Chesrown, Ruth —, Lowell Cummins, and ———, Front row - Genevieve Chesrown, Roy Tyler, Alta Miller, Prudence Fulwider, Avis Miller, Jeanette Wood, Leon Arbuckle, Nondis Ferguson, Edwin Miller, Niza Tyler, and Corda Davis, teacher.



Patrick School—1930's. Pictured: Front row, left to right -Dan Vail, Dennis Neal, and Bud Headley. Middle row -Hubert Neal, Barbara Headley, — Neal, Geraldine Gilbert, Betty Lou Wallace, and Don Vail. Back row - Kathryn Gilbert, Estella North, Viola Poole, teacher, Dorothy Headley, and Mary Qualkenbush.



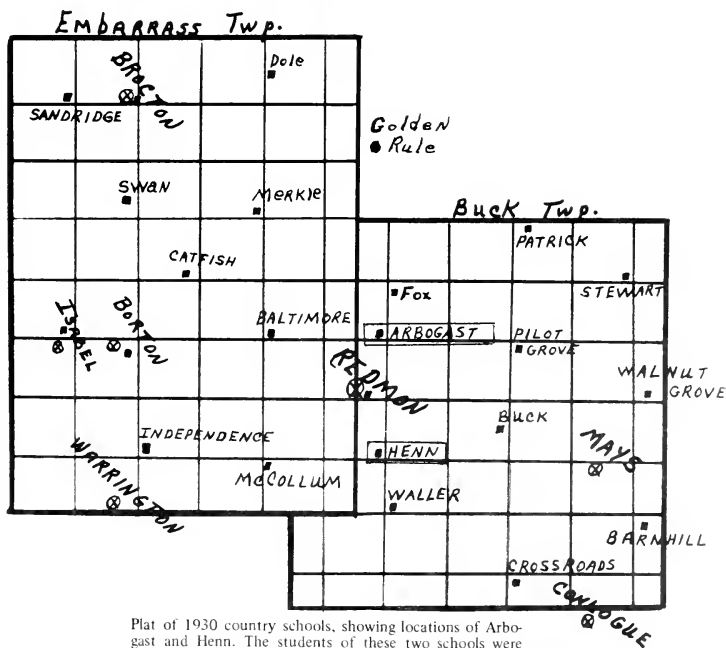
McCollum School in 1931. Pictured: Back row, left to right—Russell Dawson, teacher, Albert Schiele, Edith McConnaha, Doris Laughead, and Benny Redman. Front row—Wayne Tomaw, Dale Laughead, Dwight Laughead, Joe Brooks, Anna L. Lindsey, Wanda Nicoson, Maxine McConnaha, and Bernadine Nicoson.



Golden Rule School in 1920. Pictured: Back row, left to right—Beulah Bates, Paul Wooten, Marguerite Twigg, teacher, Robert Kieth, Irene Sullivan. Front row—Charles Bates, Evelyn Lilley, Mary E. Geiling, Fern Fenwick, Pearl Scott, Flossie Witt, Lucille Geiling, and Harold Witt.



Crossroads School being moved to Redmon where it was remodeled into home now owned by Mrs. Jesse T. Foreman.



Plat of 1930 country schools, showing locations of Arbogast and Henn. The students of these two schools were formerly divided among Redmon, Fox and Waller.



Redmon School, when John and Anna Mason were pupils, probably in 1880's. Two men are Doctors Rowe at top and Jones at right, third row. Dr. Rowe must have been a visitor, as no one ever heard of him being a teacher here.



Inside Redmon Grade School, way back, when?

There're few records left that relate any facts of the town's educational system, so we're indebted to the third class of Seniors from Redmon High School for their brief history that was published in the first annual, the 1928 *Redmonian*. Excerpts from that book follow:

"The first grade school in Redmon was a hall in an old warehouse building which stood on the lot where the [Ingram garage] now stands. The children who attended school were the children of Redmon who found it inconvenient to attend the

old Arbogast School of which Redmon was a part. The first teacher was Miss Tillie Roth.

"This hall continued to be the school building until, in the early eighties, a one room school house was built on the site of the present grade building [Carter's Shelter Care Home, today.] In 1891 the school was made a two-room grade school by the addition of another room to the old structure. The first teachers were Camille Rice Henn and Dr. W. S. Jones. These two rooms served the purpose of a grade building until the present building was erected.



Redmon High School about 1910. Pictured: Back row, left to right - Roy Lindsey, Oscar McDaniel, Minnie Young, Edna Ferguson, Edith Murphy, Glen Baker, and William Baker, teacher-principal. Front row, - Elsie Lukenbil, Dorothy Cummins, Mary Meyers, Flossie Dowling, Lillie Butler, and Hattie Sheets.

"In 1910 the old schoolhouse was torn down and the present grade building was built in its place. . . . The members of the School Board during the time of the building were Dr. W. S. Jones. Mr. S.

E. Meyers, and Mr. Roy Gill. The first teachers to enter upon duties in the new building were Mr. M. L. Shellenberger and Ethel Moser Keenen.

In Memory of Mabel E. Kile and Harold Kile  
by Herman Kile, Clarence and Ruth Kile, and families.



Redmon's lower grades, 1901. Pictured: Back row, left: ———, Cecil Hinds, Orion Jones, ———, Fred Henn, — Hinds, — McDaniel, Lidge Essinger, and Mrs. Fusson. 2nd row: ———, ———, Nell Osborn, Bernice Henn, Oscar McDaniel, Herby Wilson, Steve Applegate, Nila Helmer. 3rd row: Minnie Osborn, ———, Elsie McDaniel, Marguerite Hinds, Elsie Essinger, ———, ———, Applegate, and Roy Standly. Front row. ———, ———, Luttrell, ———, ———, ———, ———, ———, Fusson, ———, ———, Edgar Henn, — Applegate, and ———.

"Do you remember away back when . . . we occupied the room in the southwest corner of the second floor of the grade school building? In our cramped quarters we had two teachers, Mr. Gunn and Mr. Bennett. The former taught English and history; the latter had charge of Latin, mathematics, and science. Our laboratory was one corner of the big room; our class room was the pigeon hole off to the right.

"A community high school became a near reality when the bonds were issued. But to minds which can grasp concrete ideas better than the abstract ones, the foundation, the long piles of bricks, and

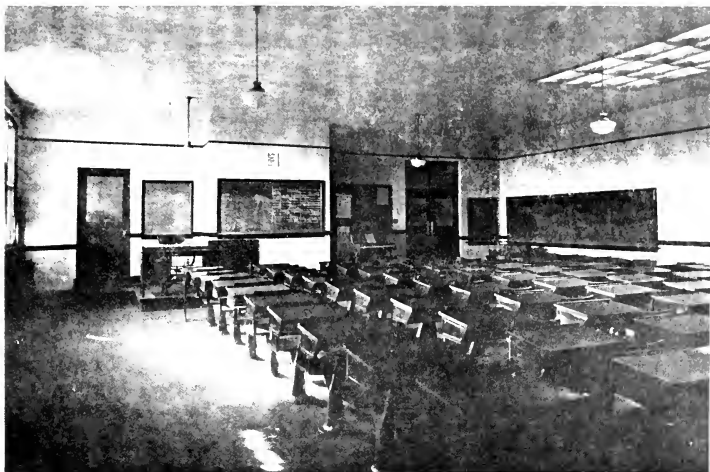
great heaps of sand meant something. During the summer and fall of 1925 we watched the workmen going about their tasks . . .

"There were four classrooms and a library. At that time we had four teachers. There were Miss Hicks, the Latin instructor; and Mr. Dunn our coach. Mr. Gunn was our principal and Miss Noakes, the English teacher.

"The Board of Directors in 1925-26 was composed of R. E. Standly, president; I. J. Brinkerhoff, A. L. Wood, J. P. Carter, and Bert North.

. . . . .





Assembly Hall, 1928 Annual, *Redmonian*



Redmon Grades about 1910. Pictured: Seated - Ethel McCulley, Marie McDaniel, Herbert Henn, Leota Milam, Margaret Ferguson. Second row - Belle Henn, Lucille Henn, Sherman Snoddy, Will McDaniel, Max Meyers, Archie Elliott, Grace Essinger, and teacher, Maude Trimble. Third row - Veda Woodruff, Mary Milam, Dellard Adcox, Everett Elliott, Vineta Smith, Marie Meyers, Harold Gill and Woodruff

In Memory of Maurice Arnold  
by Genevieve, his wife, and sons, James Edward, Maurice Gene, Glen Alan,  
and their families.



Redmon School about 1915-16. Pictured: 1st row - Stella Elliott, Goldie Rodgers, Mildred Barr, Mary Trinkle, Eileen Meyers, ———, Helen Barr, Ruth Herron, Erma Smith, Gertrude Applegate, Lucille Gill, Ralph Mood, Mary David, Harry Milam, Walter Jump, ———; and Mable Milam. 2nd row - Ethel McCulley, Grace Essinger, Marie McDaniel, Murle Surber, Geneva Milam, Josephine Mood, ———, Harold Butler, Link David, Harold Jump, Donald Snoddy, Glenn Arnold, Summer Henn, Carl Milbourn, Sherman Snoddy, and Max Meyers. 3rd row - George Rankin, teacher, ———, Leota Milam, Doris Randolph, Lucille Henn, Mary Meyers, Belle Henn, Margaret Ferguson, Vineta Smith, Edgar Henn, Will McDaniel, Orley Surber, Ralph Sunkel, Harold Gill, ———, Herbert Henn, Dellard Adcox, and teacher, Maude Trimble, and Grace Keefer.



Miss Young's primary classes about 1923. Pictured: Back row, left to right - Noel Milam, Amy Vice, Helen Earl, Hazel Willoughby, teacher, Mary Young, ———, Roger McDaniel, and Glen White. Front row, left to right - Ray David, Leonard Thompson, Marjorie Milam, Lloyd Wood, Virgil Davis, Margaret Graham, Doris Laughead, Juanita Keys, and Harold Kile.

From the one remaining school record of Redmon's District 10, *Edgar County, Illinois* we know there was a special tax to be raised on taxable property in town after July 1880: \$300 was needed for the ensuing year. The first teacher listed was Levi Cassity, who received \$35 per month for a five month term. Some of the text-books used were Swinton's Readers, Spellers, and

Grammars. According to the records, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade books were "to go into use immediately", and 4th and 5th "at such time or times as *The Pupils may advance thereto.*"

Directors between 1881 and 1895, serving three year terms, were William Gano, J. S. Hussey, James S. Gordon, J. H. Scott, D. D. Roberts, Dr. Mark Rowe, F. L. Sampson, and John Sunkel.



Camille Rice, Redmon teacher who became the wife of Louis Albert Henn.

Other teachers listed among the various years' reports were Eva Wells, L. Woodard, A. M. Roth, Virginia Clark, J. W. Merrill, R. R. Crawford, J. P. Finkel, Bing Clark, and W. S. Jones. In 1891 Camille Rice joined Mr. Jones as teacher. His salary increased from \$35 to \$50 per month when he became principal. Miss Rice received \$30.

Later instructors in the two rooms were T. J. Scott, S. A. Conner, Maggie Roberts, and Mr. Fusson in one room and Mrs. Fusson in the other.

A few beginning expenses in 1880 were paid to:

Standly & Casteel	
for record and books	\$ 4.50
Allen Exline	
for stove	4.00
J. S. Gordon	
coal and house repairs	20.43
James Milburn	
house rent	3.00
Illinois Midland RR	
freight	4.35
F. L. Sampson	
work on coal house	2.40
M. V. Barr	
house rent	8.00

The accounts show, too, that Dr. Roberts was paid \$4 for building a "privy" in 1891, and the following notes come from treasurer's reports in the same book.

July, 1882	L. Slattnaker	\$ 82.50
Nov., '82		40.00
Dec., '82		40.00
Feb., '83		80.00
Mar., '83		40.00
		<u>\$ 282.50</u>

Dec. 2, 1891—

Room rent-to AOMW trustees \$ 20

(Local residents say students used the old hall while the new addition was being built.)

Sept. 17, 1892—

G. W. Stanalker; school building \$ 700

May 6, '93

G. W. Stanalker 200

July 6, '93

G. W. Stanalker 100

July 6, '93

George Slatnaker, balance on building 236  
\$1236

Although the names don't appear to be the same we believe this refers to the construction of the first school since the name of George Stanalker has been verified as a building contractor from Paris at that time. (Names were often spelled differently by various writers, and were, just as often spelled incorrectly.)

While the brick grade school building was being erected the students attended lower grades in the old Henn School that had been moved across from Snoddy's Bank. The 9th and 10th grades—there were only two years of high in these times—held classes in the upper part of the bank.

A few pupils, Ola Henn, Flo Henn, Jessie and Frances Rhoades, and Walter Jones, went to Oakland High School to finish their education. "We'd board the train from Redmon about 8:30," Ola said, "then pick up some other boys and girls in Isabel. Since the school was then on the west end of Oakland and the depot in the east end, we'd get to classes late because we had to walk across town."



Redmon School about 1921-22. Pictured: Top row, left to right - Harry Milam, Oren Cook, Faye D., Harold Jump, Mary Trinkle, Maurice Sims, Prudence Fulwider, Claude Trinkle, Eileen Meyers, Carl Newcomer, Agnes Schad, Terry Clapp, Gertrude Applegate, Ora Hughes, and Russell Stevens, teacher. 2nd row - Ruth Herron, Maurice Dowling, Jeanette Wood, Glenn Barr, Gladys Elledge, Harlan English, Irene Welsh, Glenn Gifford, Mary Arnold, Harold White, Daisy Anderson, and Mary Young, teachers, 3rd row - Ralph Earl, Effie Bishop, Ray Herron, Thelma Poole, Wallace Hall, Selma Stanley, Leota Richey, Kathryn Brinkerhoff, Ethel Milburn, Dorothy Newcomer, Mable Milam, ———, Viola Poole, Maurice White, Raymond Earl, Wilbur White, and Amos Earl. 4th row - Lois Milam, Lucille Elliott, Hazel Milam, Hilda Milburn, Marjorie Welsh, Marie Elledge, Thelma Daniels, Kathryn English, Jessie Wood, Ed English, Russell Mapes, Lester Mapes, ———, Carl Hall, and Bernard Richie. Seated: ———, ——— Hall, Max Turnipseed, Lucille Wynn, Maxine Shields, Louise Elliott, Lee Allen Brinkerhoff, ———, Lloyd Newcomer, Clarence Schad, and Austin Poole.

"In the evening we'd have to wait at the depot for awhile to catch our train, but would get home about 4 o'clock. I remember too," she said, "their courses were much harder than the ones at Redmon; especially algebra."

Others, like Harold Jump, Jeanette Wood, Irene Welsh, Faye Daniels, Glenn Gifford, and Carl Newcomer, finished out their four years in Paris High School. But by the early 20's there were three grades of higher education in the village.

Then, in the summer and fall of 1925, the

Redmon Community High School was built and became a four year accredited school. The first seniors to graduate were:

Helen Arbuckle	Ralph Earl	Marie Elledge
Floyd Ford	John Graham	Lois Graham
	Marguerite Meloy	

Little change was made in this system until the country schools closed their doors in the 40's and 50's, largely increasing the number of elementary students and soon creating the need for buses to transport the children from outlying areas.



1925 Construction of high school addition.

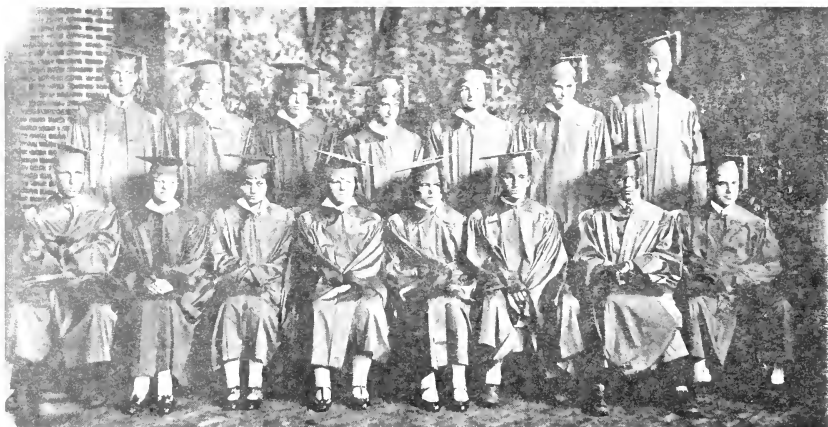


Construction on northwest corner of high school addition.



Redmon High School - 1927. Pictured: 1st row, left to right - Amos Earl, Arthur North, Phillip Milburn, Minnie Fulwider, Beulah Bates, Agnes Schad, Marie Elledge, — Davis, Dayle Brinkerhoff, Kathleen Brinkerhoff, Kathryn English, Raymond Earl, Eugene Honnold, John Fitzgerald, Donald Wilson, Chester E. Gumm, principal. 2nd row - James Chesrown, Floyd Ford, Bruce Fulwider, Ralph Earl, Frank Fox, Olive McKenzie, Ruth Anne Oaks, teacher, Marguerite Meloy, Ethel McConnaha, Grace North, Dorothy Newcomer, Viola Poole, Olive Hicks, Ruth McKenzie, Curtis Meyers, Maurice Arnold, John Graham, Carroll Dunn, coach. 3rd row - Lois Graham, Mildred Davis, Bernice Ford, Mabel Milam, and Selma Standly.

In Memory of Omer Martin  
by Chris F. and Juanita Chesrown Pickering.



1928 Seniors—to whom we are indebted. Pictured: Front row, left to right - Harold Dalton, Inez Arbuckle, Jessie Wood, Kathleen Aitken, Kathryn English, Eugene Honnold, Verian Arbuckle, and Raymond Earl. Back row - Arthur North, Bernice Ford, Helen Thiel, Virginia Dayle Brinkerhoff, Grace North, Selma Standly, and Maurice Arnold.



Redmon High School, 1934. Pictured: Back row, left to right - Virginia Carmichael, Wilma Fulwider, Alberta Bussart, Clara Belle Schiele, Edith McConnaha, Harold Kile, Joe Waller, Bill Wood, Roy Thompson, Ed Kraemer, W. E. Perisho, Maxine Bussart, Jean Biggs, Virginia Meloy, Estella North, Mary Francis Qualkenbush, Irma Ferguson, Bernadine Gifford, Hazel Willoughby, Faye Forsyth, Gene Cabeen, Lou Ann McComas, Ruby Goble, Mona Rose Grisner, and Roger McDaniel. 2nd row - Owen Kelsheimer, Dick McCarty, Ralph Wright, Lyle Goble, Ben Redman, Phil Sullivan, Jim Carter, Dick White, Bill Patrick, Donald Dillman, Alden McDaniel, Pauline Goble, Maxine McConnaha, Warren Gettle, Gene Luttrell, "Jumpy" Wilhoit, Bill Metcalf, Albert Schiele, and Dennis Beabout. 3rd row - Dorothy Baird, Margaret Graham, Lois Trimble, Barbara Markewitz, LaVerne Adams, Doyne Dillman, Irma Waller, Wilda Guyer, Maxine McDaniel, Ann Carter, Joan Guyer, Lucille Hausser, Katherine Fulwider, and Juanita Kirchner. Fourth row - Virgil Davis, Max Shy, David Foltz, Oliver Danner, Ben Duzan, Bill Poore, ———, Albert Waller, Johnnie Kraemer, Donald Bussart, Hilda Waller, Ruth Waller, Alice Wimmer, Redyth Beabout, Maxine Wright, Doris Laughead, Betty Arney, Mary Ruth Cooper, and Bernadine Nicoson.



Redmon 7th and 8th grades, 1935. Pictured: 1st row, left to right - Helen O'Hair, Geneva Bledsoe, Thelma Thompson, Rose Anne Graham, Anne L. Lindsey, Fayne Biggs, Dorothy Truelove, Mary Alice Wilson, and Kathryn Pantle. 2nd row - Junior McCulley, John Delap, Don Kirchner, Harlan Guyer, Dale Laughead, Clarence Kile, Joe Metcalf, John Winans, Roy Hutchings, and Daisy Anderson, teacher.



School band, about 1937. Pictured: Back row, left to right - Redyth Beabout, Mary Alice Wilson, Alden McDaniel, Paul Cotton, music instructor. 2nd row - Kathryn Mattingly, Betty Carrington, Alice Wimmer, Joe Metcalf, John Winans, Lavena Nay. 3rd row, sitting - Marjorie Wright, Annabelle Querrey, Bernadine Gifford, Juanita Kirchner, Betty McDaniel, Benny Duzan, and — Kelsheimer, Anne Louise Lindsey, and Wanda Nicoson.



*Joe North*



*Dorothy Blankenbaker*



*Patrick Fitzgerald*



*Willis Gifford*  
PRESIDENT

# REDMON HIGH SCHOOL



*Joanne Mattingly*  
VICE-PRESIDENT



*Zelora Graham*  
TREASURER

## SENIORS 1952



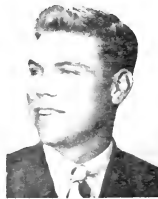
*Rose Fox*  
SECRETARY



*Monty Herrington*



*Fred Daugherty*



*Raymond Barlet*



*David Newcomer*

*5/10/52*

1952 Seniors - last class to graduate from Redmon High School. Pictured: Top row, left to right - Joe North, Dorothy Blankenbaker, and Patrick Fitzgerald. 2nd row - Willis Gifford and Joanne Mattingly. 3rd row - Zelora Graham and Rose Fox. Bottom row - Monty Herrington, Fred Daugherty, Raymond Barlet, and David Newcomer.



In 1948 Redmon and Kansas consolidated their school systems, but this didn't prove feasible. So four years later Redmon left Kansas to join Brocton, Metcalf and Hume as Unit No. 2 of the Edgar County Community Schools.

For a number of years Brocton's Junior High commuted to Redmon Grade School where all eight grades in the area attended. Brocton's first grades remained in their elementary building, and Redmon High students joined those of Brocton for classes, sports and social events in Brocton

High School. (At the same time Hume and Metcalf had worked out a similar schedule between their two schools, thus forming Young America High in Metcalf.)

Finally, after several heated discussions and a number of defeated bond issues, the newly erected building now known as Shiloh Community Schools near Hume was dedicated on May 4, 1969. It was the culmination of their consolidation more than a decade earlier.

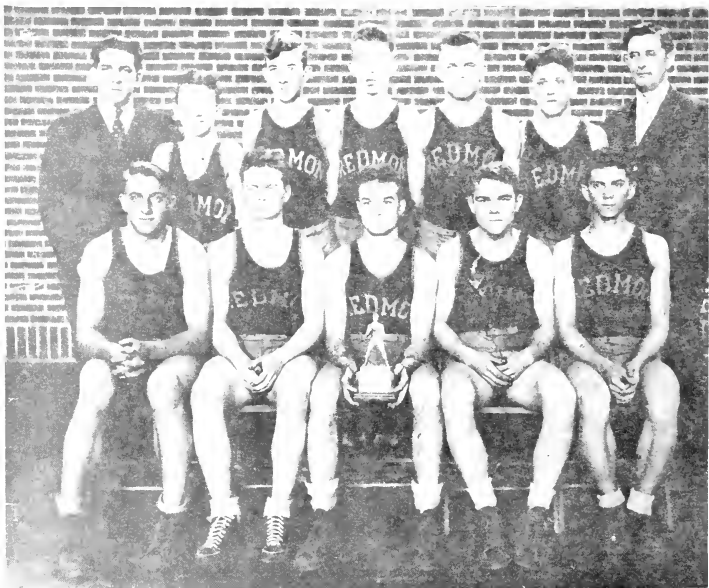


Two cheerleaders from 1928 *Redmonian*  
Pictured: Kathryn English and Dayle Brinkerhoff.



1937-38 Basketball team. Pictured: Back row, left to right - Mr. Ed Leamon, Oliver Danner, Don Cabeen, Charles Martin, Coach Jim Vopika. 2nd row - Willard Grismer, --- Wilson, ----, Frank Foltz, Andy Good, Harlan Guyer. 3rd row - Ronnie McDaniel, Clarence Kraemer, Don Bussart, Bill Poore, Wayne Tomaw, Albert Waller and John Kraemer.

In Memory of our son, Carl Flenner  
by Mr. and Mrs. Clarence R. Flenner.

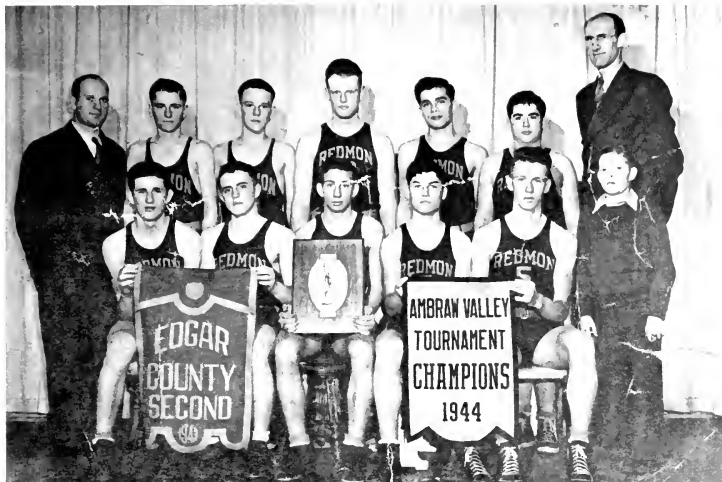


2nd in Regional Tournament, 1932. Pictured, back left: Coach Wayne Cooper, Russell Keyes, John Metcalf, Ralph Hancock, Wayne Menk, Oscar Davis, and Principal Guy Bayless, Front: "Ox" Gentry, Guy Guyer, Dean North, Kenneth Wright, and Bill Milburn.

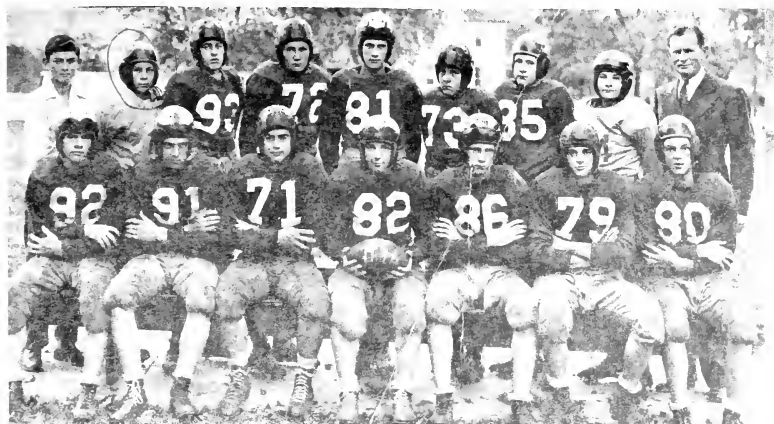
Note: the team before this were Regional Winners. They included part of the above, plus the winning team members—Wilbur Honnold, Ed English, Ralph Newby, and "Bog" Wright.



1945 Grade School Team. Pictured: Back row, left to right—Doris Pierce, principal of Grade School; Wayne Miller, Jim Butcher, David Newcomer, Tom Dunn, Harold Pantle, Coach Carroll Dunn, 2nd row—Richard Dunn, Tom Rollings. Front row — Carl Flenner, Don Ogden, Gerald Butler, Howard Eads, and Jim Biggs.



District Champs 1944. Pictured: Back row, left to right - Coach Don Schriner, Darrell Laughead, Harry Hibschan, Ed Newhart, Don Mattingly, John Gifford, Principal Ed Leamon. Front row - Eddie Gillis, Maurice McDaniel, Charles McDaniel, Jr., Tom Mattingly, Harold Waller, and Manager Jake Reeley.



The football squad, 1946. Pictured: Front row, left to right - Tom Boyer, Sonny Herrington, John Gifford, Bud Smitley, Chuck Herrington, Glenn Smitley, Don Odgen. Back row - Floyd Newhart, manager, Eli Brown, Pat Fitzgerald, Gerald Butler, Don Wallace, Jim Biggs, George Fox, and Coach Dunn.

In Memory of Hugh F. Combs  
by Mrs. Caroline Combs and Bill.

Cemeteries,

Churches,

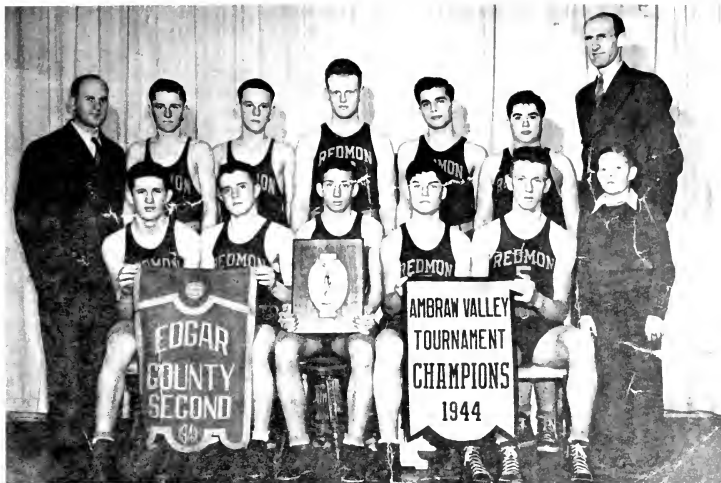
etc.

The mercies of our sovereign Lord  
Are worthy of all praise;  
Let all the earth with one accord  
A song of triumph raise.

He left the shining courts above,  
He left the Father's throne,  
Where all is joy and peace and love  
And sorrow is unknown.

An offering of himself he made,  
He died upon the tree,  
Oh, trembling soul, be not afraid,  
He shed his blood for thee.

(Written in 1886, by John J. Martin)



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(Written in 1886, by John J. Martin)

Although education played a big role in the beginning of all settlements, a main concern of the pioneers, obviously of necessity, was a cemetery. The oldest ones started as family graveyards, but most soon became neighborhood burial grounds. The oldest of the four in this area was Catfish Point, also known as the Milburn Cemetery. It was there, in 1836, that Thomas Darnall was laid to rest. Later on members of the Milburn, Landsdown, Snider, Thompson, and other families were placed there.

Among the memorable verses found in this old cemetery (which like a few others, is in desperate need of care) is the one on the stone of S. E. Milburn:

*Remember friends as you pass by,  
As you are now, so once was I.  
As I am now, so you must be.  
Prepare for death and follow me.*

The other three graveyards are the Scott, already mentioned elsewhere; the Embarrass that adjoins the church property; and a small one south of Embarrass that belonged to the David Smith family. (We know of none in all of Buck Township.)

The main cemetery in the vicinity of Redmon has always been Embarrass, and over the years there've been six additions made to the plat. All of the land came from Roll descendants, or in-laws; the last in 1959 from William Roll, Sr., and his wife, Ethel.



Embarrass Cemetery - 1926.

In 1900, 2½ acres of land adjoining the cemetery on the north was sold for \$250 by William and Elizabeth Gano "to John Roll, Peter Chesrown and Douglas Merkle, Trustees, and their successors, to hold the land hereby conveyed for the use of the people, for public or private gatherings of the people such as fairs, picnics, or any public meetings, or gatherings for any lawful purpose of Edgar County, Illinois." (This is verbatim from Hannah Roll McHenry's abstract.) At that time the cemetery trustees were paying expenses with money from subscription fees for burial lots, or private donations. I understood from Arthur Trimble, who replaced Peter Chesrown as trustee, the land had been donated for public use by

Chesrown, Merkle and Roll. So maybe they, themselves, paid for the land.

It was 1948 before it was actually developed into a public park. Many neighbors and friends of the community donated their time and money for the purpose, and expenses today, for upkeep of the tables, grills, play equipment, electricity, etc., are still funded by private donations.

The first religious order in the Embarrass Community was also formed at Catfish. Thirty-two years later, in 1864, Embarrass Church was established. This was soon after the organization of the township; apparently the church was named for the new township.

As stated before, a temporary cabin was built some time in the 1840's in this area for school and religion. In Mrs. McHenry's abstract a school is mentioned several times. It was called Liberty School and located a short piece north of the present Embarrass Cemetery on land that reverted to the owner after the cabin was no longer used for school. That may have been the temporary building used until the first Embarrass Church was built.

In 1871 this same abstract says Abraham and

Hannah Roll, his wife, sold one acre of land for \$30 to Branson Davis, Charles Merkle, John E. Milburn, Abraham Roll, and C. N. Standly, trustees, "as the property of the United Brethren in Christ." In an autobiographical booklet entitled *My Personal Experiences* written by Sarah Roll Whitlock, she said, "... my father gave one acre of the ground to the United Brethren Church for church purposes and he hewed the sills out of his own timber for the church building so we would have a place to worship."



Congregation in front of old Embarrass Church - 1906. Pictured: Standing - Dave Hamilton, John Combs, Lou Chesrown, Peter Chesrown, Arthur Trimble, May Fulwider, Ray Trimble, Bernice Ferguson, Bill Cummins, Ethel Trimble, Howard Van Auker, Avis Chesrown, C. Thompson, Myrtle Chesrown, Margaret Trimble, Gertrude Ferguson, Minnie Chesrown, ----, Lyda Cummins, Mattie

Chesrown, James Chesrown, Linda Cummins, Loda Frye, Anne Combs, Charles Chesrown, 2nd row - Lillian Barr, Florence Barr, Viola Frye, Esthel Chesrown, LaFern Chesrown, Lillian Chesrown, Mildred Chesrown, Garnet Chesrown, Marguerite Ferguson, Isaac Barr. Front row - Chas. Fulwider, Lucy Fulwider, Elizabeth Chesrown, Dorothy Cummins, Florence Cummins, Clive Chesrown, and ----.





Congregation at Embarrass Church - 1926. Pictured: Left to right - Ot Davis, Howard Van Auker, Elda Gifford, James Chesrown, Ab Wood and Robert. Mildred Davis, Eva Chesrown.



Mrs. Ot Davis, Mrs. Charles Tyler, Mrs. Clive Chesrown, Mrs. Elda Gifford, Niza Tyler, Mrs. Arthur Trimble, Mrs. Ab Wood, Mrs. Howard Van Auker, Delilah Tyler, Mrs. S. T. Carrington, Clive Chesrown, Mrs. and Mr. O. E. Craig, Clayton Tyler.



S. T. Carrington, Ezra Kelsheimer, Roy Tyler, Glenn Gifford, Preacher Parsons, Jim Chesrown. Seated in front - Opal Davis, Norma Chesrown, Lois Trimble, Juanita Chesrown, Lotella Tyler, Betty Carrington, Allan Trimble, Johanne Carrington, Orral, Jr. and William Craig, Minnie Belle Chesrown, and Edith McCarty.

In Memory of Susie Ward Carrington  
by her sons, Eugene Carrington, wife Janet and family; Max Carrington, and wife Helen.

So the first permanent building was probably erected that same year. The earliest records of church membership, however, are dated 1876 and listed in a "Class Book for Embarrass Class, Grand Prairie Circuit, Lower Wabash Annual Conference." Those names are the same ones found throughout the history of the township; Chesrown (Chesrown.) Cummins, Davis, Hamilton, Mearle, Milburn, Roll, Standley (Standly.) and Wood.

At times church attendance in the rural areas was almost impossible because of traveling con-

ditions, so services were started in an upper room of the same building in Redmon where school began. Once when a revival was being held there, John Mason, Sr., was converted. Subsequently, at the age of 35, he decided a church should be built.

"Others said it couldn't be done," his granddaughter, Mabel Kile wrote years later. "But," she continued, "Mr. Mason said, 'We are going to have a church if I have to build it myself.'" So he donated the ground where the first church in Redmon was erected, and others helped build it."



Redmon E. U. B. Church, about 1877

This church was completed around 1877 at a cost of about \$1300. The first pastor was Reverend Samuel Ross. (For some time a group of Presbyterians held services in this building and

expected to have their own church, but records fail to make further mention of this.) A second U. B. Church was erected several years later, replacing the original structure.

About 25 years ago the United Brethren and Evangelical Churches joined forces and became members of the United Brethren Evangelical Conference. Then, in 1967, the E. U. B.'s and Methodists combined and are now known as the United Methodist Church.

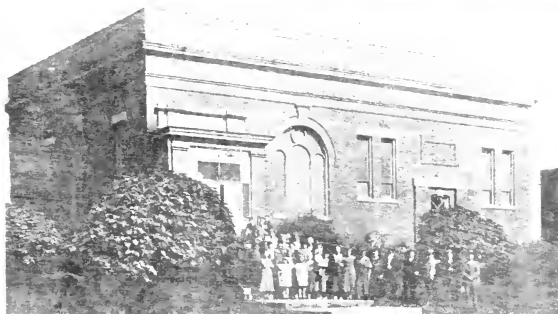
After this union the congregation of the E. U. B. Church started attending services at the old Methodist Church in Redmon, thus ending the

need for their building. Subsequently it was sold. Today it's used as a school and crafts center for nearby residents of the Shelter Care Home.

Among the older families of this church are the names of Arnold, Applegate, Barr, Bates, Daugherty, Davis, Foltz, Gifford, Kile, Luttrell, McDaniels, Milburn, McIntosh, McCarty, Osburn, Ritchey, Stanley, Thompson, Trimble, Trinkle, Wilson, and Whitesell.



E. U. B. Church, around 1940



Redmon Methodist Church, destroyed first structure in 1981

In Memory of Lottie Woolery Lamb and Goldie Lamb Luttrell  
by Edna Luttrell Landes.

In his history of Buck Township, Dr. Jones said, "My Grandfather, Elder William Shields held church services at Buckler Schoolhouse or at the home of Am Barnhill as early as 1854. Most of the Public worship in the early days, when the Presbyterian, Methodist, Christian, United Brethren, and the Old School, or Primitive Baptist held their services, was held at this Schoolhouse."

In the 1944 *Directory of Brocton Circuit Churches*, by Reverend Edward and Mrs. Mae

Nickerson, it says, "The first Methodist Sunday school was organized about the year 1895, by the Emanuel Meyers, William Brengle and Curtis Bollar families and was held for some time in the Buck School house about three miles southeast of Redmon, and visiting ministers often came and held worship services. I have record of two, one a Rev. Miller, the other Rev. Marquis M. Want who was at that time the pastor at Edgar.



Methodist Church and group

"A short time later they moved to Redmon where they continued to hold Sunday School in the IOOF building.

"On December 26, 1896," lots were purchased by M. L. Rhoads, Ellis Brill and N. W. Murphy for \$700, and services were held in Jim Gordon's building that stood on the land. The store was soon torn down and the first church erected. It was dedicated in 1903, but burned ten years later in the "Great Fire."

The brick building we know today as the United Methodist Church was built the next year. It's family names are as familiar as the other's: Biggs, Brinkerhoff, Brooks, Carter, Conley, Dillman, English, Gifford, Harrison, Henn, and Jones. Others were Jump, Kirchner, Lindsey, Ogden, Pantle, Schad, Tyler, White, Wimmer, Wood, and Wright. Members of some of these families remain in the church at present.

The Christian Church had its beginning about 1900 in the Barnett School, with Sunday classes and an occasional sermon by traveling ministers. A few years later services were held in the upper part of Essinger's Store.

In late 1906, "two young ministers, Lancelot

Hadaway and Jesse Mason," Ruth Harris (Mauldin) wrote in 1955, "held a three weeks meeting and organized the congregation.

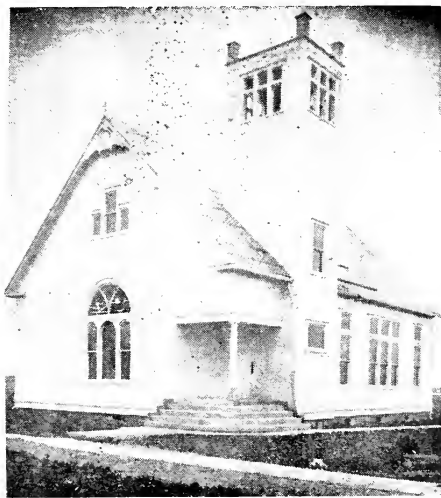
"They voted to hire Lancelot Hadaway as minister, who continued to serve for three years. In the meantime the members decided to build a church."

Mrs. Rhoda Brinkerhoff and Emma Exline each offered a large donation and a building site. After some debate the building committee, who consisted of Albert Brinkerhoff, Eli Brown, Sr., J. H. Stephenson, Isaac Barr, Jesse A. Pierce, Willis Brinkerhoff, John Helton, Charles Snider, Mrs. Brinkerhoff and Mrs. Exline, decided to locate on the Brinkerhoff lot. To acquire the necessary money Susie Brinkerhoff, Savilla Brown, Belle Pierce, and Catherine Stephenson rode through the country in buggies soliciting funds.

At the construction site the first spade of dirt was shoveled by 90-year-old Rhoda Brinkerhoff, and the Redmon Christian Church was finally completed in November 1907. On the 10th of that month a dedication ceremony was held, with morning, afternoon, and evening services conducted by the Reverends J. Fred Jones and W. W. Sniff. The church has changed very little over the years.



Christian Church congregation at Essinger store. Pictured: Front row—Albert Brinkerhoff, Mrs. Sam Hobbs, Mrs. Eli Brown, unknown child, ———, Eli Brown, Sr., Isaac Barr, Nell Downs Lawson, ———, Samuel Hobbs, Lancelot Hadaway, William Burnett, Jesse Pierce, Ivan Ludington, Walter Stephenson. Middle row—Lottie Woolery, Minnie Young, ———, Maggie Snider, ———, ———, Lillian Barr, Lilly Snider, Garnella Hobbs, Vernon Stewart. Back row—Mae Fulwider, Leora Young, Maude Davis Patchett, Susie Brinkerhoff, Addie Brown, Mrs. Charles Snider, ———, Mrs. Heider Stephenson, Golda Grant, and Millie Barrett.



Christian Church; Dedicated Lord's Day, November 10, 1907.

In Memory of William T. and Winifred McCord  
by Gerald W. Parson family (Mary Louise McCord.)

The Holiness Church had its source at a tent meeting on the farm of Winfield Stephenson northwest of Redmon in 1919. The preacher was L. J. King from Ohio. After the tent meeting closed, some members of the community rented

the building where Essinger's Mill had been and held services there for three years. Soon the ground where the church is now located was contributed. The building was erected that same year with the aid of donations and volunteer workers.



Camp Meeting at Winfield Stephenson's. Pictured: George P. and Oscar Foltz in 1920 Model T Ford.



Reverend Alma Elliott.

Their first preacher was Reverend Ferral from Ohio, but the next year George Garner assumed the ministerial duties. Later on Glen Nephew took charge of the morning worship, and Alma Elliott,

the evening services. This continued for several years. Finally Reverend Elliott became the only minister in the parish and remained so until her death in 1961.

Since then various preachers have occupied the pulpit; among them I. D. Griffith and Robert Bell of Terre Haute, who has a permanent position with the church now.

In past years there was a teen-age band who played for church meetings. It included Terry Clapp, Don Snoddy, Maurice Arnold, and Billy LeMasters.

Other members are, or have been, the Edwardses, Hunts, Stephensons, Mary Hathaway, William Roll, Sr., and family, the Ivan Laugheads, Ed Willoughbys, Moodys, Stipps, Humphreys, Bert Clapps, William Bakers, Vinton Shaffer, Fred Elliott and family, Virgil and Ruth Jones, and Owen and Virgie Baker.

Last summer the original church was shingled



Holiness Church - 1974.

and roofed, and plans are now being made to redecorate the inside.

The three remaining churches in Redmon oc-

asionally have combined services and continue to work together to hold Summer Bible School for children throughout the region.



E. U. B. Church Group, 1952. Pictured: Standing: Frank and Susie Carrington, Raymond and Eva Arnold, Grant and Gertrude Clark, Oscar and Cassie McDaniel, Sam Applegate, Herman Kile, and Arthur Trimble. Sitting in front of car - Ruth Kile, Jane Kile, Nelson Arnold, Clarence Kile, Robert Kile, Evan Arnold, Rev. Robert Hackel, Vickie Wright, Leonard Jones, and Garnet Applegate. In car - Mabel Kile and Mrs. Leonard Jones.



Ladies Aid of Redmon Christian Church in 1907. Pictured: Children in front - Lillian Barr and Quanita Brown. Front row, left to right - Nell Downs Lawson, Mrs. Eli Brown, Sr., Mrs. Hobbs, Mrs. Bell Pierce. Back row - Mrs. Isaac Barr, Lottie Woolery Lamb, Mrs. Heider Stephenson, Mrs. Irving Brown, Mrs. Albert Brinkerhoff. Standing - Mrs. Horace Fulwider and Mrs. Downs' mother. (Note old school building at left.)



Ladies Aid of Redmon Christian Church - 1932. Pictured: Kneeling - Susie Guyer, Mae Winn, Delphia McCulley and Sophia Beabout. Standing - Mary Daniels, Tillie North, Hazel Metcalf, Mrs. Levey, Blanche McConnaha, Agnes Schad, Eva Willis, Grace Sunkel, Faye Jump, and Susan Brinkerhoff.





Christian Church Congregation—1926 or 27. Pictured: First row, left to right—Don Fulwider, Arthur Chamber, Herb Summerlot, Amos Earl, Manuel Dyer, Dean North, Wayne North, Blanche Thiel, Mary Brinkerhoff, Glenwood McClain, Burley McClain, Second row: ———, Maxine Shields, Jessie Wood, Thelma North, Martha Brinkerhoff, Lucille Elliott, Faye Daniels, Minnie Fulwider, Minnie Belle Chesrown, Mrs. Bert North, Grace North, Lois Graham, Marjorie Dalton, and Helen Thiel. Third row: Raymond Earl, Lewis Summerlot, Raymond Thiel, ———, Carl Summerlot, Freeman Overton, Arthur North, John Wright, Doris Wilhoit, Jesse Beabout, Iris Wilhoit, Edna Luttrell, Carrie Lowery, Evelyn Lilley, and George Overton.



Methodist Church W. S. C. S. in 1965. Pictured: First row, left to right - Ted McCord, Grace Jones and Madge Brooks. Second row - Belva Murphy, Emma Kizer, Leona Lindsey, and Sada Henn. Third row - Vineta Ogden and Esther Brengle. Back row - Louise McCord, Emma Jane Brown, Fannie English, and Maud Henn.

In Memory of our Beloved Husband and Father, Russell Graham  
by Lydia, Norma, and family.



Methodist WSCS, 1944 Directory of Brocton Circuit

Pictured: back row left: Stella Poole, Lottie Biggs, Esther Brengle, Ora Henn, Belva Standly, Irma Biggs, Opal Schad, Sada Henn, Carolyn Hunter, Nora Kirchner, and Madge Brooks. Front: Ella Pantle, Maud Henn, Eva Willis, Leona Lindsey, Charles Leamon, Elizabeth Henn, Mary Wimmer, Nancy Cline, and Gertrude Wood.

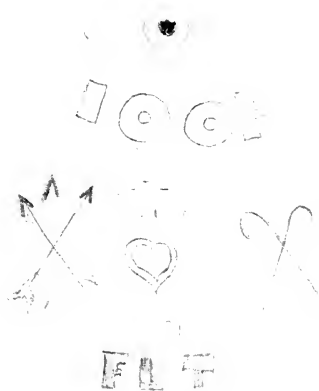


Builders Class of Redmon Christian Church. Pictured: Front row, left to right - Morris Sunkel, Lester Veach, Lloyd Newcomer, Charles North, Lester Sims, Harold Jump, and Everett Veach. Second row - Marian Milburn, Lola Wood, Marian North, Nina Sims, Beulah Blankenbaker, and Wilda Sunkel. Third row - Grace Sunkel, Ruby Veach, Mrs. L. Veach, Louise Flenner, Maxine Kimberlin, Nell North and Sue, Harold Milburn, and Dick North. Fourth row - David Sunkel, Doris Pierce, Dean North, Betty Newcomer, Lucille Meloy, Faye Jump, Dorothy North, Kathleen Aitken, Mike Kimberlin, Woody Kimberlin, "Spud" Aitken, and Wayne North. Back row - Emmett Meloy, Arthur North, Shelby Wood, Etzel North, and Lee Blankenbaker.

Clubs,

Socials,

etc.



From 1884, been quite a few social organizations in the town's history. Probably the first was the Odd Fellows Redmon Lodge No. 149. Ancient Order of United Workmen (AOUW. In 1884-1903 their property included the building (now owned by Gary Ingram,) where the first educational societies were. It was managed by three trustees: at one time, John Henn, William Gano, and John H. Henn. The organization's purpose, or what happened to it after that date is unknown.

Redmon's International Order of Odd Fellows, Chapter No. 150, IOOF, was established October 1884 with H. A. Heberaw, Jacob Henn, Jr., Philip Henn, J. A. White, William Henn, and George Sunkel as charter members. Their meeting place was above the store now known as Lester's Market, but the building was probably built by, and has always belonged to this lodge.

In August 1961 the Oakland and Redmon chapters combined, but meetings are still held in Redmon.

The local order of Modern Woodmen of America, M.W.A. was founded about the same time as the IOOF and also met in that place. It could be active around the early

After initial attempts proved successful throughout the county other clubs sprang up. Grandview-Buck began in 1931, with George Patrick as leader. Some of the subjects his group later discussed were:

Producing Safe Milk

presented by: Harry Querrey

Soybean Products

presented by: John C. Adams

From Corn to Pork Chops

presented by: J. Brinkerhoff

Beautifying the Farmstead

presented by: Katherine Pantle

Rations for Calves

presented by: Bobbie Wood

Cooperation in Club Work

presented by: W. E. Perisho

Boys and girls from the Redmon area have also been active in Redmon Sunflowers, Dudley Ag. and Golden Rule 4-H Clubs. (For a partial list of leaders of these clubs, see page 153.) Besides the agricultural categories they've learned sewing, cooking, flower arranging, and room improvement, studied electrical wiring, welding and many other helpful topics.

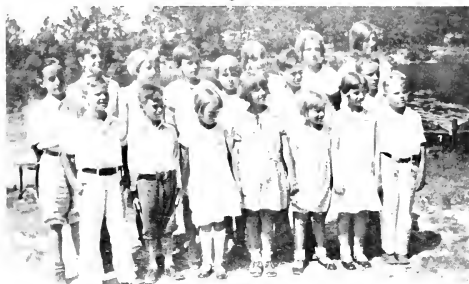
Through the years there've been no outgrowth of more educational courses for women and many cooperative home and farm improvements. In 1962 the 4-H groups, such as the Redmon 4-H Club, are active in projects. The group president, Frances Hart, is a good leader, confident and capable and "We know why these young people is a very rewarding experience."

Though these clubs are no longer active, some of the boys and girls from this region have joined others in the county. In 1962 the Edgar County 4-H Association was established to handle the finances of the program, and now owns land where an annual 4-H Fair is held, with bedding, to house animals, poultry, and display food and clothing projects. So it looks as if the club is here for a long time to come.

Edgar County Home Bureau was organized in 1937. (For a list of members, see page 153.) By the early 40's the Redmon chapter had been formed, but grew so large in the next 13 years that several of the young women pulled away from the mother group and formed their own



4-H Club Parade, about 1962. Pictured on back of truck—Lois Wright, Joan Luttrell, Janice Nicholson, Sharon McCarty, Garnet Applegate, Jerry North, ———, Ruth North, Janice Harrison, Linda Schad, Susan Brinkerhoff. In truck—Rose Wright, Ruth and Joe Ingram.



Youth Group at Paris Lake—1930. Pictured, back left: Alden, Roger McDaniel, Barbara Jane Markewitz, Wilda "Bid" Guyer, Lucille Hausser, Helen Earl, ——— Thompson, Middle: ———, Harold Kile, and Lloyd Wood. Front: Harlan "Hob" Guyer, Clarence Kile, Mary Ethel Logsdon, ———, ———, ——— Chappelear, and ———.

unit. They started holding meetings at night as a convenience to the working members, so they became known as the Redmon Night Unit.

In 1962 the name of Home Bureau was

changed to Homemakers Extension Association, and around that time the Redmon Day Unit ceased functioning. The remaining group is still very active, especially in civic affairs.

In Memory of Charles and Minnie Cryder Chesrown  
by Harold and Esthel Chesrown Haug, Harry and Lillie Chesrown Markewitz, and families.



Redmon girls reunion. Pictured: Sitting—Rosa Hughes, Kathryn Brinkerhoff holding Susanna Kirchner and Lucille Gill Kirchner behind. Kneeling from left—Ruth Herron, Thelma Poole, Kathryn English, and Erma Smith. Standing—Dorothy Newcomer, Madelyn Fox, Grace North, Marjorie Welsh, Jeanette Wood, Viola Poole, Faye Daniels, Flo Henn, Irene Welsh, Lucille Henn, Mabel Conley, and Lola Mae McDaniel.

In the early 20's the Manasquan Campfire Girls were organized and included Mabel Milam, Viola Poole, Marjorie Welsh, Kathryn English, Dorothy Newcomer, Mabel Conley, Kathryn Brinkerhoff, and Erma Smith. Among their pleasant memories are moonlight hikes to Dr. Rowe's place where they slid down hay stacks.

"One time," Marjorie Welsh Moore recently

said, "we invited some boys to come along. I remember Pat McKenzie, Walter Jump, and Ray Herron were there. Of course, we were correctly chaperoned by our leaders, Mrs. Mae Wilson and Miss Flora Henn."

Perhaps the highlight of those years was when the group presented the play "Her Son's Sweetheart" at the school in Isabel.



Get-together - 1906. Picture Includes: Siebert and Ola Brinkerhoff, Frank, Sumner, and Ann Henn, Frank and Nelle White, Watt and Stella Poole, and Earl and Julia Milam, plus others.



Redmon couples at State Fair in Springfield - 1908. Pictured: Mr. and Mrs. Will Stewart, Mr. and Mrs. John Durnall, Mr. and Mrs. Sid Meyers, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Gill, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Henn.



Gathering of Redmon Youth Group. Pictured: Front row, left to right—Leora Young, — Wymer, Mildred Chesrown, Gertrude and Esther Brinkerhoff, Josie Ross, Elsie McDaniel, Elsie Rodgers, Ellen Applegate, Lillie Chesrown, Lulu Brinkerhoff, and Tess Lindsey. Four small girls, — Wymer, Bessie Fulwider, Lola Brinkerhoff, and Lucy Fulwider. Back row—Mae Fulwider, Minnie Young, Olive Brengle, Harry Fulwider, Fred Brengle, Oris Ross, Arthur Lindsey, Charles Fulwider, Lewis Brinkerhoff, and Elsie Essinger.

In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Qualkenbush and Lovina Qualkenbush  
by Mr. and Mrs. Rex Boyles and Walter Qualkenbush.



Stand at Chautauqua. Pictured: Thelma Poole, Irma Swinford, Lester Mapes, Jake Jump, and unknown boy.

In January 1936 Troop 87 of the Boy Scouts of America was formed in Redmon, sponsored by a number of interested citizens, then later by the Redmon High School. Charter members were John Delap, Dale Duzan, Frank Foltz, Harlan Guyer, Don Kirchner, Joe Metcalf, Allen Trimble, and Ralph Wright. Their scoutmaster was Lee Brinkerhoff, assisted by Ed Leamon, Harold Jump, William Kirchner, Otto Davis and Art Trimble.

A year and a half later they were represented by Don and "Pinky" Trimble for a week in July at the National Boy Scout Jamboree in Washington, D. C. Afterward the pack often hiked to Embarrass Woods where they fished, hunted, and camped out. But they disbanded about 1943.

In '58 another one was established; Pack No. 183. This time the sponsor was the Redmon-Brocton PTA, and John Wright was the troop leader. He was assisted by Ira Boyer, Clayton Tyler, John Delap, Wayne Wright, and Lloyd Wood.

Beginning members were Curt Brinkerhoff,

David North, Carroll Butler, Tom Harrison, Bill Littleton, Ed Luttrell, and John Davidson. Redmon's Volunteer Fire Department soon accepted responsibility for this group.

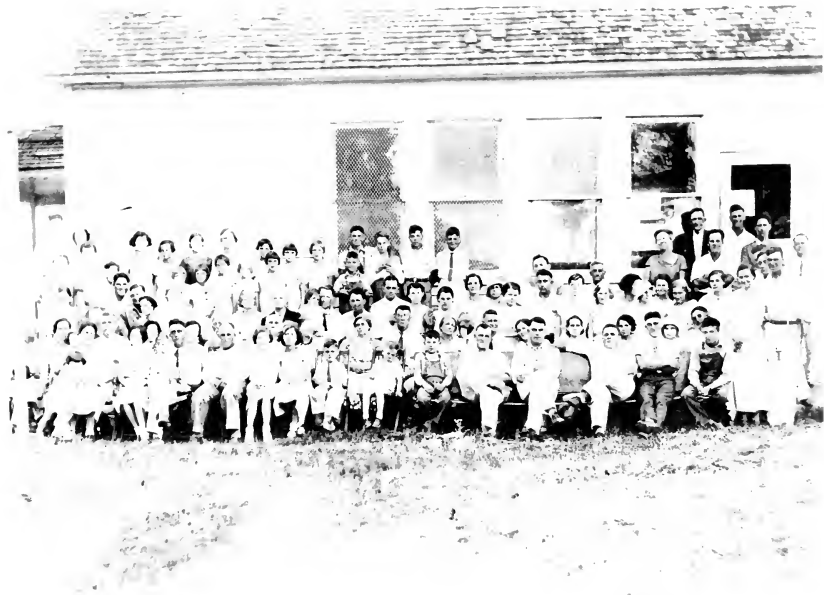
They spent several weekends at Paris Twin Lakes, went to summer camps near Brazil, Indiana at Camp Kreitenstein, and attended a special camp-out near Robinson, Illinois. Later scoutmasters were Eli Brown, Curt Brinkerhoff, and Ira Boyer.

This troop was active for a number of years, then suspended activities for a while. In '72 Ira once more became leader, now of No. 283, continued camp-outs with the boys at Camp Kreitenstein and elsewhere until they disbanded a year later. His assistant was Mike Cassidy, and the Fire Department remained their sponsor.

These were the most noted organizations in Redmon's history. If there were others, no information about them was uncovered.

Besides this, neighborhood gatherings occurred at the slightest whim. Typical reasons are noted in the photos that follow.





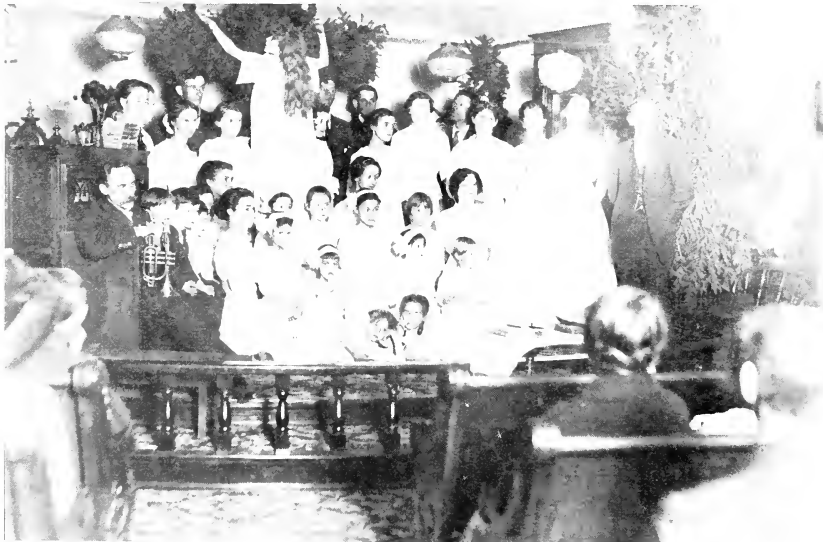
Gathering at Barnett School. Pictured: Front row seated—Bess D. and Betty Cusick, Kathryn Fulwider, Fred and Leroy Stewart, Betty and Guy C. Brown, Redyth Beabout, Mary Ruth Cooper, J. Wesley Chesrown, Jim Forster, Virgil Jones, Ray Graham, Clive Chesrown, Burley McClain, and ———. 2nd row seated—Bert North, Minnie, Mary Jane, and Arthur Lindsey, Mae Fulwider, Cora Lacy, Eli Brown, Albert and Susy Brinkerhoff, Ola and Siebert Brinkerhoff, Mrs. and Mr. Perry Martin, Marjorie Chesrown, Lillie Graham, Lillian Stewart, Margaret Graham, and Tillie North. 3rd row—Minnie Fulwider, Pearl Harrison, ———, ———, Cora Fulwider, ———, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Martin, Everett Martin holding Pat Chesrown, Fred Martin, Kenneth Winans, Martha and Mary Brinkerhoff, Grace North, Mary Forster, Kathleen Brinkerhoff, Esten Aitken, Thelma North, Irene Fox, ———, Hazel Cusick, Mary North, Genevieve Chesrown, Betty Lindsey, Sophia Beabout, ———, Charles Fox, and Jesse Beabout. 4th row— ———, ———, Lloyd Lindsey, Jean and Wanda Brown, Violet Stewart, Norma Chesrown, Anne Graham, Junior Beabout, Arthur Forster and baby, Chauncey and Marjorie Cooper, Nolan Adams, Joe Cooper, and Reverend Hadaway. Back row— ———, Kathryn Lindsey, Mary Qualkenbush, Estella North, Maxine Lacy, Jeanette Wood, Jane Eileen Stewart, Rosalie Graham, Juanita Chesrown, Glenwood McClain, Dennis Beabout, Harold Lindsey, Jim Cooper, Jesse Pierce, and Clyde Jones.







Swimming in the Wabash River at Darwin - 1928. Picture includes: S. T. Carrington, Shelby Wood, and Clive Chesrown.



Easter or Christmas Program in Embarrass Church, early 1900's. Pictured: Mrs. Arbuckle, Avis Trimble, ----, Howard Van Auker, ----, and Arthur Trimble. 2nd row: ----, Viola Frye, preacher's daughter at cross, ----, Doris Randolph, Garnet Chesrown, Mrs. Searly, Mrs. Bishop, preacher's wife, and preacher. 3rd row: ---- with horn, Glenn Gifford, Chester Arbuckle, ----, ----, Mrs. Randolph, ----, ----, 4th row: Mrs. Elda Gifford, Ida Chesrown, Esthel Chesrown, Delores Daugherty, Fern Chesrown. 5th row: ---- Bishop, Eva Chesrown, Genevieve Chesrown. Front: ----, and ---- Bishop.

## FARM BUREAU MEMBERSHIP, 1917

### Buck Township

Charles H. Adams  
R. A. Mattingly  
Cliff Andrews  
Milton D. Meyers  
C. W. Brinkerhoff  
Charles T. Rudy  
Frank Englum  
William Stewart  
Charles E. Fox  
Frank H. Sullivan  
Herbert Lycan  
Alva J. Schnediker  
C. C. Mattingly

Eli Brown  
Roy Hillery  
J. P. Carter  
W. W. Hodge  
C. E. Cooper  
Perry Martin  
J. W. Curl  
Elmer Sunkel  
J. A. Durnel  
Frank White  
Samuel Graham  
W. J. Englum

### Embarrass Township

J. B. Ogle  
E. J. Coffee  
E. T. Smith  
M. I. Delap  
Paul Vaughn  
C. J. England  
August Wiese  
Carl L. Krabel  
A. L. Witt  
Carlin McAdams  
Ogden Brothers

## REDMON 4-H CLUB LEADERS

### Redmon 4-H Club

Arthur Trimble  
Russell Henn  
Ralph Pantle  
Bernard Sullivan  
Robert Henn  
Guy & Joan Guyer  
Lois Tomaw  
Phyllis Hixson

### Grandview-Buck

George Patrick  
Sam Arbuckle  
Wendell A. Blair  
John McDavitt

### Dudley Ag

Roy & Anna Landes

### Redmon Sunflowers

Clova Dillman  
Ella Pantle  
Ruth Ingram  
Rose Wright

### Golden Rule

Ruth McIntosh  
Lotella Hanks

## HOME BUREAU MEMBERSHIP, 1937

### Buck Township

Mrs. Charles Adams	Mrs. Esta Elam
Lillie Belle Adams	Mrs. W. J. Englum
Mary Adams	Mrs. Edgar Guyer
LaVerne Adams	Mrs. Gus Hardy
Mrs. George W. Adams	Mrs. Russel Henn
Daisy Adams	Mrs. Walter Hodge
Mrs. Lester Adams	Mrs. Roy Landes
Mrs. Helen Bowman	Mrs. Clarence Ogden
Mrs. Ola Brinkerhoff	Mrs. Fred Pantle
Mrs. Guy C. Brown	Mrs. Gaillard Parker
Mrs. G. V. Cline	Mrs. Bernice Perisho
Mrs. C. E. Cooper	Mrs. Arthur Sudduth
Mrs. E. O. Delap	Mrs. Oscar Wimmer
Mrs. Ralph Dillman	

### Embarrass Township

Mrs. Arch Babb	Mrs. Paul Martin
Mrs. Harry Brooks	Mrs. C. D. Merkle
Mrs. S. T. Carrington	Mrs. Eva Ogden
Mrs. Ray Collier	Mrs. Ralph Ogden
Mrs. Will Conley	Mrs. Harlan Powers
Mrs. Russell Conley	Bertha Snider
Mrs. Clinton Delap	Mrs. Frank Snider
Mrs. Zack Drake	Mrs. Arthur Trimble
Mrs. Mabel Endsley	Mrs. Ura Trimble
Mrs. Harry Fulwider	Mrs. Paul Vaughn
Mrs. F. C. Geiling	Lillian Wood
Mrs. F. N. Gossett	Mrs. Margaret Turner
Mrs. J. P. Kiley	Mrs. Fern Wagers
Doris Kiley	Mrs. Edna Wiese
Mrs. Roy Knicley	Mrs. Ernest Wiese
Mrs. C. B. Lewis	Mrs. Abner Wood

# IV

## OUTSTANDING

## EVENTS



Bank Robber

(In 1950 Robert Decker, one of Redmon's school teachers, now living in Kansas, Illinois, wrote *A History of Redmon and Vicinity* for his college thesis. That paper has been used to write the following section, and we're grateful for Mr. Decker granting us permission to use it.)



Redmon Bank.  
(Atlas of Edgar County, Illinois)

## Bank Robbery 1907

Soon after midnight, on the morning of Wednesday, September 10, E. O. Snoddy, who had been sleeping upstairs over his bank as a precaution, was awakened by the sound of someone trying to gain entrance below. The lock on the front door apparently foiled the robber's attempts, so he tried to pry open a side window.

By that time Mr. Snoddy was wide awake and had a pistol in his hand. Quietly he raised an upstairs window, reached out with the gun pointing downward, and fired.

Someone returned the fire, then fled before inquisitive town residents could arrive on the scene. The only one left to tell what happened outside the building was found lying alongside, beneath the window where he'd expected to enter. But he was dead!

The robber, according to reports from the *Paris Daily Beacon*, Decker wrote,

"... was dressed in a new hat, shoes and overalls, probably for the purpose of masquerading as a farmer, and wore much finery underneath.

"The man came well supplied. His belongings included nitro-glycerin (reported, but not found one theory has it, the *Beacon* said, 'that his companions carried it off,') a box of 14 fuses, tools (including some stolen from Watt Poole's Blacksmith Shop across the street,) ground coffee, and a two-bushel cloth bag. The intentions of the man were rather obvious; this fact can not be disputed."

An inquest was held a few days later and it was established that Elmer O. Snoddy, the cashier, had fired three shots, and the same amount was returned, probably by one of the robber's companions. The question of whether he might have accidentally shot his partner, or if the man was killed by Mr. Snoddy was never actually proven.

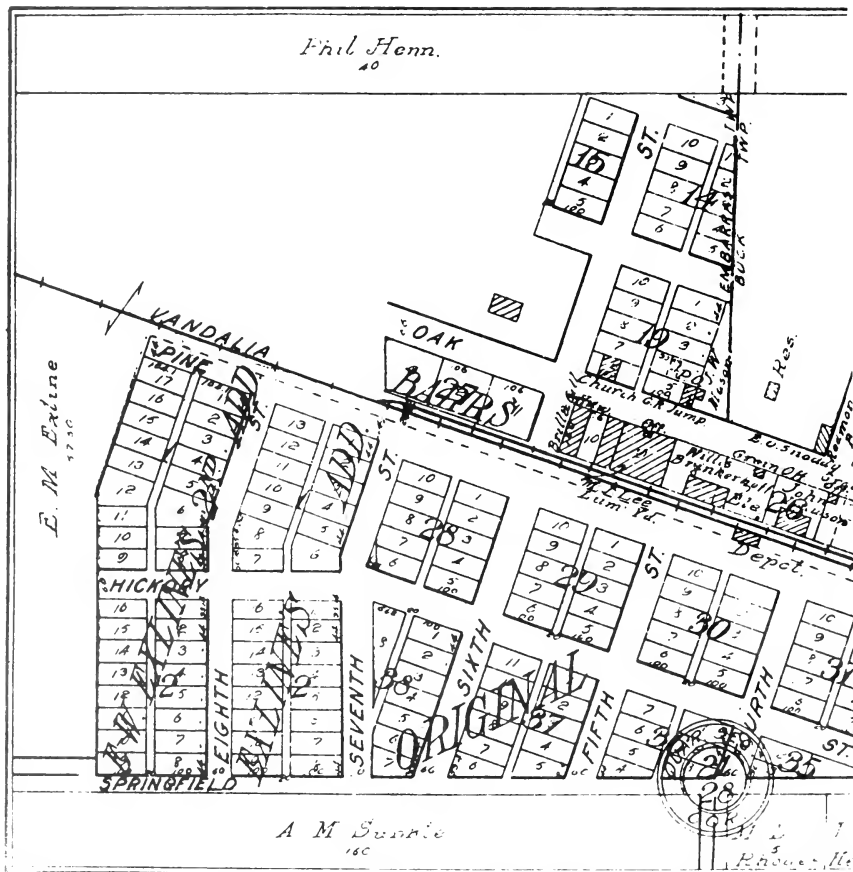
Two gun-shots struck the man in the top of the head, and since the projected course of entry seemed to be from above, the cashier was believed to be guilty. The jury decided he had shot in the line of duty, thus exonerating Mr. Snoddy.

The man's identity was still a mystery when the following item appeared in the September 11, 1907 issue of the *Beacon*:

"On his right arm is tattooed the head and bust of a girl above a horse shoe, with the head of a horse inside the horse shoe. On his left arm is tattooed a pair of clasped hands over a heart. In his left hand is a scar of a bullet wound, showing that he had been shot at before."

A short time later the robber was identified by Frank Scarberry from Edgar, Illinois, who said he had worked with the man for the Collier Bridge Company. The only name he could provide, however, was "Red."

Hundreds of people viewed the corpse before Redmon's bank robber was buried on the 14th of that month. Tradition has it that three, or four of his companions were later caught, and identified "Red" as their leader. But in the *Edgar County Register of Deaths*, he is listed as John Brown, Not Sure.







1910 PLAT OF TOWN OF REDMON

Showing businesses before fire of 1913.

# The Great Fire 1913

About three in the morning of May 20th, Caroline Mason awoke with cramps in her feet. Quickly she swung her legs over the side of the bed, stepped painfully onto the floor and forced herself to take a few steps so the taut muscles would relax.

The pain finally subsided. As she was returning to bed she glanced out the upstairs window of the big, white house and thought she saw smoke coming from the elevator across the street. After a closer look, she turned to her husband, who had awakened at the sound of her moving about the room, and exclaimed, "John, I believe Mr. Brinkerhoff's elevator is on fire! I'll go and tell Johnny to ring the bell." While he was still searching frantically for something to put on, she dashed downstairs.

Young John Mason pulled on his clothes, but not his boots before he ran to Lawson's scale shed to sound the alarm. The way the wind was blowing, he knew it wouldn't take long for the rising flames to get out of hand. He methodically pulled the bell rope as his mother hurried across the street and, without a word, placed his boots beside him on the ground. Sparks, she noticed, were already blowing in the direction of the main business district—right toward her son's home.

Probably due to the howl of the wind, which blew the noise of the ringing bell away from most of the residential part of the town, the inhabitants were slow to awaken. Before many arrived on the scene, the fire was quickly gaining momentum. And no one—they surmised—was going to be able to save the town, let alone the elevator, with that old hand-pumper.

While several men went to the jail building or the west end of Oak Street to pull the fire engine into place, someone checked at the telephone office to see if Miss Woolery had been able to obtain any help from other areas.

The Paris Fire Department had offered assistance, but their engines would be of no use without force pumps to furnish water for them, and there were none in Redmon. The loan of extra hose also had to be refused, because there was already more than the relic apparatus could handle.

Anyway, by the time people from the surrounding countryside appeared and offered to aid the firemen in their futile attempts to save the business district, the heat had become so intense they were unable to get within 300 yards of the flames—and that was too far for the manually-operated pump to throw a stream of water.



Smoking embers! The heat from the fire was so hot it broke out some of the windows on a passing train.

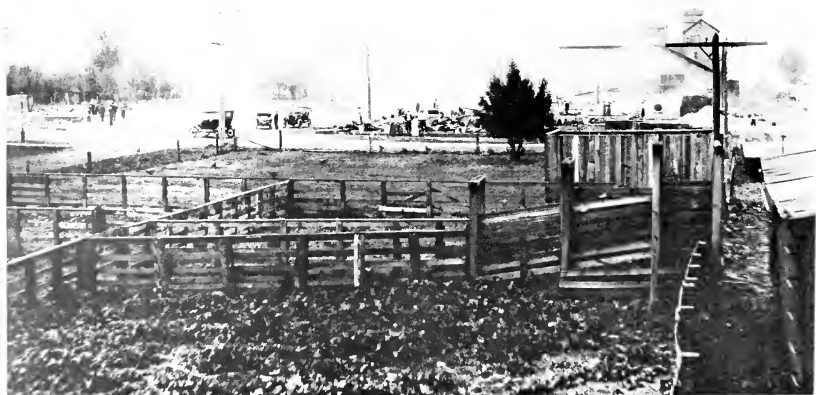


At least half of the business district was razed. (Note old, "useless" fire engine in center front.)

In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Poole  
by Carroll L. Dunn and family.



Brinkerhoff's Elevator before the fire. (Note cham harness on team.)



Looking east, down Oak Street from the livestock yards.

In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard R. Jones, Everett and Hazel  
by the remaining Jones children and families.



Mason's home adjoining old Standly Drug Store; John W., Jr., owned it at the time of fire.  
 Pictured, seated: John, Sr., Treacy; Caroline; Anna, Mabel, Richard E., and Leona Standly.  
 On ground: John, Jr., Maggie Osborn, and Roy Standly.



Jump's first store that burned in 1913. Pictured: Eddie and Finny Graham.



Exline home with four-room addition that was added for Emma when her daughter Maud married Sid Meyers and they moved into the old part. All attempts to remove furniture from the house during the fire were stopped when the grand piano became jammed and blocked the doorway. Pictured: Belle White, Emma, Marie Meyers, and her mother, Maud.

At 9:30 that morning the wind finally died down, so all efforts to keep the fire under control were halted. Without the wind there was no more damage it could do. From the Brinkerhoff Elevator west to the corner of Oak and 6th, catty-cornered across to the Exline residence, then back along the north side of Oak as far as, and including the Mason's business-home, the town was nothing but smoldering ruins. (Fortunately for Dave Lawson, who owned the elevator next door to the one that burned,—and perhaps the rest of the town—he'd had a large storage tank built near his establishment a few years before, and throughout the early hours his buildings had been inundated with water from that tank.)

After insurance companies made their appraisals, the following estimates were listed for the razed businesses and residences:

Brinkerhoff's Elevator	\$ 12,000
Dowling's Blacksmith Shop	2,000
Lee's Lumber Yard	21,000
Brill & Gill Hardware	8,000
Exline's home	8,000
Methodist Church	4,000
Wilson's Shaving Parlor	1,000
C. R. Jump's Store	12,000
Mason's home and drug store	8,000
US Post Office (in above store)	1,000

Furniture-from the homes of Exline's, Mason's, and another house, north of the church, that burned

1,000  
\$78,000

Total loss was probably more like \$85,000, and, as it turned out, insurance only covered about a third of that amount. But the day following the fire stories that the town would be rebuilt and be "bigger, better, and more prosperous than ever," were already being heard, it was reported by the Beacon.

Long afterward, the rumor that the blaze had been purposely set by unknown persons seen in the area in a strange automobile only a short time before the fire was discovered was discussed. (This fact was never proven either.) And the disadvantages that faced the villagers from the very beginning were also talked about.

One evening at a Mason family gathering the issues were being bandied about once more, when one of the ladies turned toward Johnny and said, "There's just one thing I want to know for certain. How come you took off your boots to ring the fire bell?"

Laughing, he looked at her and said, "Well, I'll tell you, Lydia. . . ."



Buck Town House, moved from Mays Station.

# Who Moved The Town House?

The political vote of Redmon is divided between Embarrass and Buck Townships, with the latter's polling place located amid the business district of this town. Years ago, however, the town house was situated in Mays Station, and quite an uproar arose when it was moved from that place—even though the issue was voted on by the legal voters of the township.

According to Decker, who quoted Jesse Pierce, (assessor at the time of the maneuver,) the following events occurred:

"Redmon was a more heavily populated village, and the measure passed by a vote of approximately 3 to 2. In due course William Layman was contracted by the township officials to move the building. The power was furnished by a steam engine belonging to a Mr. Milam.

"The citizens of Mays, almost unanimously and with great rapidity, secured an injunction from the Master in Chancery, Harvey Gross, forbidding the illegal removal and charging William Layman with Larceny.

"(Legally, the injunction should have been issued by the Honorable Judge Walter Brewer, then residing in Paris, but he was enjoying a local baseball game at the time.)

"The paper reached William Layman as he was attempting to move the poll across the railroad

tracks in Redmon. Being dangerously situated at the moment, it was moved on across the tracks, but rested there for many weeks until the issue was settled.

"Strained relations prevailed for some time between the two small villages. Mays fought to the last, taking the case to court at Charleston, Illinois, in October, 1917. The presiding judge eventually waived the claims of the riled citizenry of Mays."

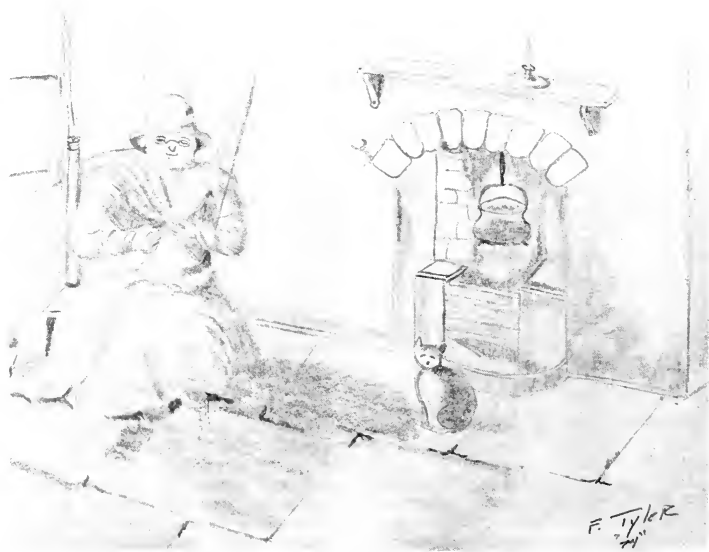
The case was "nullified for want of sufficient evidence," it's noted in the *Coles County Criminal Records*, on October 16 of that year.

On May 6, 1918 a meeting was recorded as being held in the "Town House, Mays, Buck Township," in the *Highway Commissioners Records*. Local authorities place the transfer of the building sometime between '17 and '22.

During the next 20 years a few staunch politicians failed to vote for *anything*, because they'd vowed never to set foot in the town house as long as it remained in Redmon.

As time progressed, the encounter was almost forgotten, and at least one Mays defendant stepped inside the contested structure to cast another ballot. Nevertheless, to descendants of the families involved the subject is still no laughing matter.

V  
DOWN  
MEMORY LANE





Remember . . .



. . . the Elwood tractor? Pictured: S. T. Carrington, disking for Elmer Sunkel about 1920.



. . . when the umbrella was the latest in cooling systems? Pictured: Howard Young.



these fly nets used to keep insects away?  
Pictured: Ivan Laughead and grandson, Wayne Tomaw.



... when Redmon pulled away from Kansas School District and joined the Brocton-Young America Unit? Pictured: Joyce Brown, Nell North, Anna Landes, Dorothy North, Gladys Brown, Jerry, Don and Etzel North.





... Barr's Chair o'plane? 4th of July, 1940, Glenn at controls.



... the blisters after a long day of those long rows? Pictured: Herman Kile, about 1920.



... the Rhythm Band Days? Pictured in their home-made, oat-meal-box hats: Jeanne Brown, Billy Arney, Betty Wallace, Doris Graham, Wanda Brown, Betty Brown, Velvin Graham, Hubert Herrington.



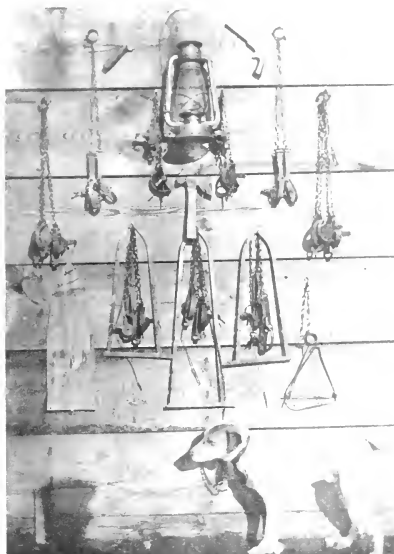
... when young ladies wore hats and bows to Sunday School? Pictured: back, Lottie Woolery, Elsie Lukenbill, Minnie Young, Marguerite Hinds, Elsie Essinger, and Vernon Stewart. Seated: Hattie Sheets, Mary Applegate, Hobart Crouch, Zella O'Hair, and Marie Meyers.



... when the first six grades attended school in the little room, and 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th were in the big room of the old building? Pictured: front row, left: Bux Woodruff, Max Meyers, Tom Woodruff, Grover Rhoades, Sherman Snoddy, Vada and Crystal Woodruff, Lucille Henn, Arch Elliott, Garnella Hobbs, Belle Henn, ——— Sunkel, Marie McDaniel, Ethyl McCulley, and Grace Essinger. Back: Lawrence Luttrell, ———, Earl Woodruff with big hat, Everett Elliott, ——— Jenkins, William McDaniel, Vineta Smith, Fanny Eskew, Mary Applegate, Mary Meyers, Alice Applegate, Josephine Sunkel, Harold Gill, ———, and teachers—Mrs. and Mr. Fusson. Left window: Minnie Young and two unknowns; right window, back: Flossie Dowling, ———, Hattie Sheets is center girl in front of window.



... when the boys tried to skip out of the school picture?  
Pictured: Flo Henn and students, 1919.



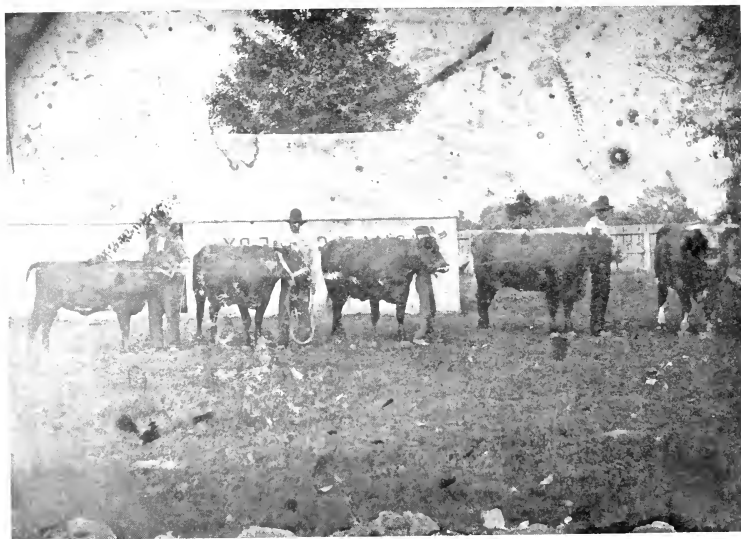
... when trapping muskrat and mink was a way of life  
rather than a sport? Traps and paraphernalia belonged to  
Roy Standly.



... when trappers made their rounds on our local streams? Pictured:  
Garnella and Roy Hobbs, Carl Milburn.

In Memory of Elda and Effie Gifford  
by grandchildren, Bernadine, John Elda, Bill, Ramona, Gene, and Marcella

## Did You Know...



... Jacob Henn had two strings of Shorthorn cattle for the show ring? Pictured: 2nd man, Albert Henn, 4th man, Charles Henn; other, unknown.

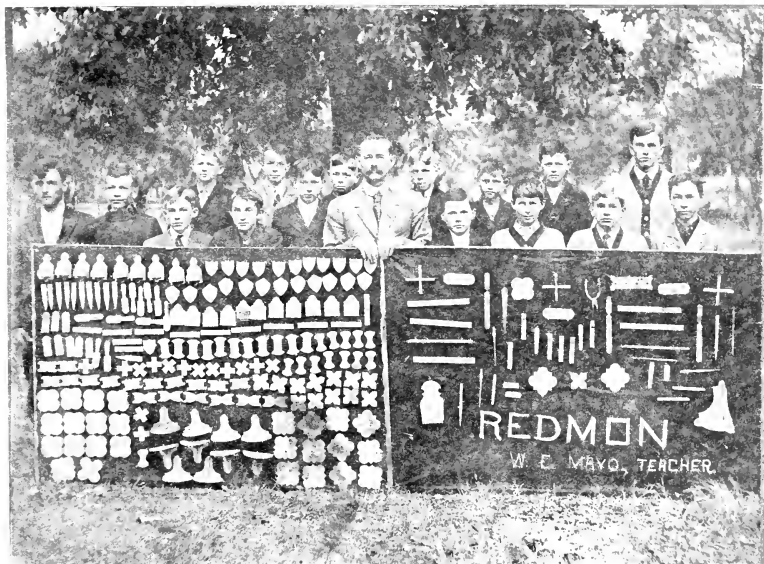
... the Redmon-Grandview telephone line was once called the "hog telephone and white-jug line?" It was used mainly by hog dealers for business calls, and other people calling for the doctor.

... C. R. Jump once had this notice on his store window:  
"We now have sliced bread: 5¢ a loaf."

... a couple of young maidens were perplexed and kept "unrolling the first roll of [sh-h-h] toilet paper" they ever saw? (It was in Dr. Rowe's little out building, at the turn of the century.)



... Frank Henn showed sheep? Pictured; Frank Henn on right.



... There was a Manual Training Class in the early schools?

In Memory of Ogle Harrison  
by wife, Ruth; son, Tom and family



REDMON HIGH—1930  
Did you know any of these?



... Harold Jump once had long curls? Pictured: Harold and Walter "Jake" Jump on "Old Barney."





... Redmon had a poultry processing operation? "Finger Lickin' Good!" Pictured:  
 ———, Vern Essinger, Fred Butler, Lidge Essinger, and Hank Butler.



... Farm sales, like this one at Oscar Sherer's, were big attractions even in 1908?

In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Meloy and Fern  
 by Virginia Fields and Gladys Harris and families



... the girls also had a Craft Class?



... Redmon had a Band that traveled and held concerts in the 1880's? Pictured: Bert Rowe, S. E. Meyers, Bill Henn. "Chenee" Gordon, Charles Sunkel, — Cunningham, C. D. Kirk, Charles Meyers, John Mason, and a few unknowns.

1930 group of students at Redmon High School. Pictured, 1st row, left to right: Mabel Thiel, Gladys Meloy, Lucille Elliott, Mary Brinkerhoff, Roberta Lilly, Edith McCarty, Maxine Shields, Martha Brinkerhoff, Ruth Eskew, Mary Keyes, Kathryn Bates. 2nd row: Mrs. Bockwitz, Blanche Wright, Mrs. Lillian Tolbert, Agnes Hollis, Dorothy Dalton, Evelyn Lilly, Iris Wilhoit, Doris Wilhoit, Minnie Belle Chesrown, Mable Duzan, Opal Davis, Blanche Thiel, Louise McCord, Mary Louise Lilly, Louise Elliott, Mary Conley, Edna Luttrell, Nell McDaniel. 3rd row: Mrs. Bayless, Emerald Gentry, Coach Wayne Cooper, John Wright, Dale Wilhoit, Ed English, Byron Luttrell, Dean North, Paul Stoltz, Principal Guy Bayless. 4th row. Kenneth Wright, Bill Milburn, Vern Stewart, Ralph Newby, Austin Poole, ———, Oscar Davis, Wilmer Honnold, Guy Guyer. (See page 172.)

## Footnotes

*For comparison with today's prices and way of life, we've gleaned the following items from Art Trimble's old ledgers:*

In 1908 C. R. Jump was selling tobacco for 10¢, a shirt for \$1, a tie was 50¢, and two collars sold for 25¢. You could even buy two shirts for a dollar, or overalls at 75¢ a pair, and a box of work gloves for \$1.25.

Stationery, 15¢; tea, 10¢; nutmeg, 5¢; coffee, sugar, meal, or rice for 25¢; a sack of flour was \$1.50; and coal oil, 12¢. A hair cut was 25¢ and a shave, 10¢; one cigar, 2¢; and 10¢ for pine tar" to rid the family of that summer cough.

Art bought a "surface cultivator" in 1917 for \$33.

The next year he sold eggs for 28 to 35¢ a dozen; butter 35 to 40¢ a pound; and six muskrat hides brought \$3.23. Two mule colts cost him \$200, then he paid \$2 for liniment. *Medicine for the mules? Or where they'd kicked Art?*

Yellow corn was \$1.12, and white was \$1.20 that fall. Throughout the year hogs were 16 to 77¢ a pound; a calf brought \$45, and license plates for that first Ford were \$6.

In 1919 it cost \$3 per day for getting wheat shocked, and \$2 for labor to plow corn. A sow and pigs sold for \$20, corn was 55¢ a bushel.

Art subscribed to the *Prairie Farmer* in 1923—a five-year subscription was \$3.10. He paid the same amount for a pair of overshoes, and \$4 for shoes. Frank Daniels sold him a hay wagon and hay fork for \$15.15, clover seed was \$13 a bushel, a Savage rifle cost \$17.65, and shirts were still a dollar. He bought "beef for threshers" that sold for 21¢ a pound that fall.

Three years later a new "Chevy" cost \$655, and an average of \$2 was paid to the Wabash Telephone Company every two months for phone service without long distance tolls.

The summer of '27 was cold; corn was planted "up till the last of June. September was a hot wave. Temperature up to 100°! October registered 90°. First killing freeze was November 5, 1927." Corn sold that year for 52¢.

*Have heart, farmers'*



"Over the river and through the woods," the Tyler family goes. Pictured: Lee, Nellie, Hulda, Ethel, and Alfred.



"Seeing Nellie home." Pictured: Russell and Lester Mapes, Charles Henn, and Johnny Scott.



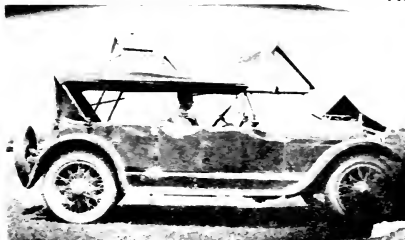
Earl Gifford says, "Come on, Jack, or I'll trade you in for a horseless carriage."



S. T. Carrington and Harold Gill "Out for a night on the town." (House in background is now owned by Harry Biggs.)



"That'll be the last time we ever take those two out!" declare Roy Lindsey and Clayton Perisho.



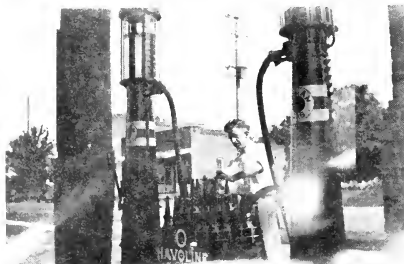
"Wonder if this Paige will get through that slough at the bottom of the hill," ponders Ralph Sunkel.



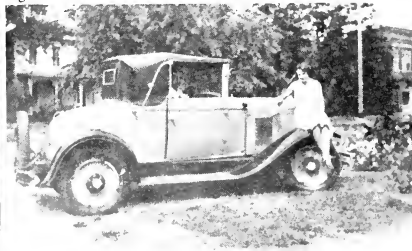
States Irvin Brown, "Bet my Merry Oldsmobile will outdo Guy's team of mules any day."



Ura Trimble says, "Andy, if they don't get this line movin', I'll never make it to that dance tonight."



"Don't know why we have to close on Sundays," Ed Biggs remarks.



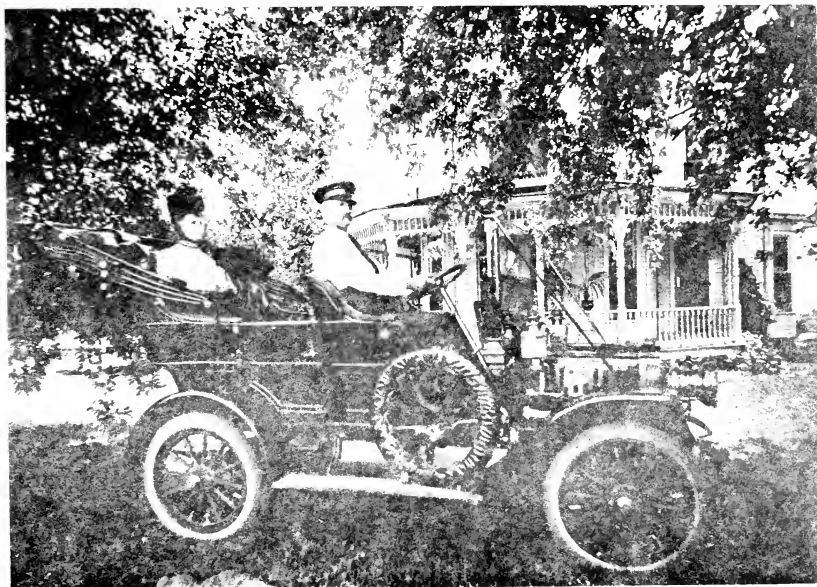
Irma and Ed Biggs ready to "see the USA in their Chevrolet."



Farmers beating the high cost of living, about 1918. It was cheaper to butcher your own than pay 19¢ a pound for pork at those high-priced butcher shops.



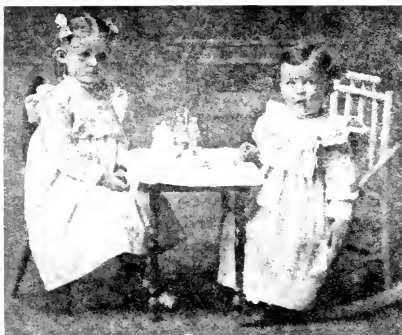
The Masons discuss the merits of their Mitchell Touring car with an equestrian friend.



"Once around the block" with Helen and Matthew Patchett.



"Tea, anyone?" asks Leona Standly.



"Wanta join the party?" questions Russell Conley.  
 "Nellie's ready to pour."



"Phil would take me a ride in his Birdsell wagon if I had a penny," pouting Harold Milburn explains.





"There's only room for one, Minnie and Arley," reasons Lil Richieson.



Harry Fulwider.

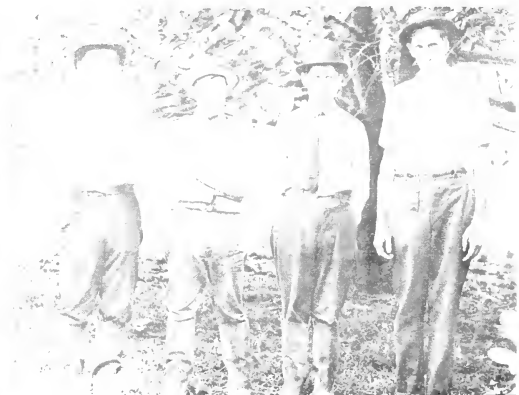


Edgar Henn. 1917-18.

In Memory of Frank and Ann Henn  
by sons, Sumner and Sidney Henn



"They wouldn't wait 'til I got the feed in the trough," explains Garnet Applegate.



Bert Cook, Arthur "Doc" Hess, Alva Eskew, and Charlie Low; farm hands.



Mr. and Mrs. Riley Rhoads and son.



Mutt and Jeff of Redmon High, 1921 -  
Pat McKenzie and Jake Jump.



Teachers of youth group, at the lake:  
Mabel Kile, Susan Dowling, Genevieve  
Arnold, and Gertrude Hardy in 1930.



An old home in a timber break.

In Memory of Pearl and Nettie Ritchey  
by Mr. and Mrs. Bernard "Pete" Ritchey



In front of Watt's Smithy.



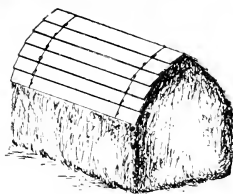
Gladys Osborn, Walter Jump, and Lucille Gill.



Lew Wynn,  
Redmon Postmaster, 1920's.

# Henn & Fulwider's

Protect your Hay with



Second Hay Cap!

It Forms a Perfect Cover for

## WHEAT, OATS AND HAY RICKS.

It saves all your Hay. It is formed of Common Planks and Wire Hooks. No holes are made in the beams, consequently they will last a life time. A machine especially made for forming the hooks, is furnished with each Farm Right. A ten year old boy can make 20 hooks a minute with this machine. This Hay Cap can be taken off and replaced in 20 minutes. It is not a luxury but a saving of your productions. The only Hay Cap ever invented which will keep out snow as well as rain. \$5 buys a Farm Right and one machine for forming hooks.

Township and County Rights for Sale.

Price according to population and production of hay. The amount of hay saved the first season by its use will pay for the cover and right if you have ten tons of hay.

## Agents Wanted in all Parts of U. S.

Buy your County and sell it out in Farm and Township Rights, and make 500 per cent. on the investment.

Further information than that contained herein will be cheerfully furnished by the undersigned.

## HENN & FULWIDER.

Inventors & Patentees, REDMON, ILL.

Advertisement for Henn and Fulwider, on a postal card.



Second elevator fire; Standly home across street.

Second elevator fire; lumber yard, businesses on West Oak.



In front of Foltz's Store.



Faye and Harold Jump - last day at store; May 1967.



First Honor Roll, built in 1940's; listed World War II veterans.

In the 40's the first Honor Roll was erected by Fred Elliott on the lot adjoining the US Post Office. It contained a list of seventy-seven names of young men and women from the community who served during World War II, with only one gold star to designate the death of a soldier.

Over the years the structure fell into disrepair, so in 1969 a committee was formed to collect funds for a new monument. Enough money was soon available to provide a stone honoring all of our neighborhood service men and women.

(Some funds remain in the treasury to replace the wind-shredded US flag on occasion and to place bouquets there commemorating Memorial Day each year.)

The new memorial was erected in the same location, but on land then donated as a permanent site for such a purpose by the late Ernest and Hazel Deremiah. A light was also added at that time to spotlight the area, and electricity for this is furnished by Wayne Wright.

The present committee consists of Gladys and Alva Harris, Rose Wright, Pauline Ray, and Harry Biggs.



Rosie and Charlie Barr, 1940; at the fair.

*A final footnote to Redmon's history from Glenn Barr,  
who was a resident here for 30 years.*

### CALLING IT LIKE IT WAS

I was proud to grow up in Redmon, a small town of 230 souls and no heels.

When I was a boy, Mike Kuch and Frank Bertram were ditchers and tile layers. Frank was also champion butcher at the fall gatherings, and could tell great stories while fixing skates, bicycles, etc., for all of us kids. A really fine individual.

The economy was low back then. My father, Charlie Barr, owned a grain mill that was grinding a lot of chicken feed, though. It consisted of a one-cylinder gas engine, with a line shaft, first belted to a steel burr mill that ground the feed, then to an old hand sheller that handled ear corn, and finally to a stone burr mill which furnished corn meal.

Nearby, I had a chair properly placed for the unsuspecting observer. The seat was covered with two steel plates and wired to a high-tension magneto. When the stranger was highly interested in the milling process I would spin the magneto. Always a standing ovation!

I went to school with Dellard Adcox. Later he owned a Pope Motorcycle. This was the one you pushed and ran with to start, then jumped on. When he was going to work, he always had trouble picking up his dinner bucket. Each time he came by and reached out to get it, his mother stepped back with it, out of reach.

Another fella I know, Jim White, would walk across the field to town and practice his feed sales pitch on us. Guess he was preparing for greater challenges, such as selling tractors for Kirchner's, then as John Deere blockman.

Bert Clapp came up from Clark County to start a carpenter and saw filing shop. Charles Kirchner insisted that Bert manage his lumber yard for him, which he did. Bert had been with a circus and could walk the slack wire. One day, to prove a bet, he walked a wire stretched across the driveway at the yard.

William Kirchner would load John Deere tractors in the middle of the street and use bridge planks to run them up on the truck. Curtis Meyers was the only one I know who could load a lug-wheeled tractor, have the board drop out at the same time, and still land safely.

At the elevator Hank Butler was dumping grain. He had good lungs and could be heard clear on the east side of town when he yelled, "Come on, next," to the waiting line of farmers. His family were natural-born hunters and lived almost the year around on wild game: rabbits, squirrels, possums, and coons.

Benny Casteel and John Davidson were running a threshing rig for Charles Milam in the summer, then would use the steam engine to pull a grader doing road work.

James Robinson contracted to gravel the roads north of town and bought 30 Model T Ford trucks from the Dan Goodman Agency in Paris. Each one hauled about a yard of rock.

There was a Chevrolet Agency in Redmon back about 1916, owned by Al Trinkle and Elda Gifford. They dealt mostly from their homes.

When radios first came out, I bought one with ear phones from Roy Standly. He would buy the parts and build them from scratch. Terrific to hear "Chubby" Parker on WLS, Chicago.

In 1925, my father built the lunch wagon. We served at sale barns, farm sales, hound meets, car races, and horse tracks. That started me on my career in the restaurant business.

Ten years later we came up with the big white cookhouse, seating 50, and were serving our famous fish sandwich. Later enough rides to make a carnival set-up were added.

Many of the little girls who rode the merry-go-round horses first are our present-day grandmothers. A familiar sight in Redmon each spring was to see the painting of it and the other equipment before the summer tour started.

My Grandfather was Michael V. Barr. Dr. Ray Jones said he was his greatest school teacher. When Grandfather owned the elevator he was known to always add two columns of figures at the same time.

*(A bunch of young men in the vicinity owned foxhounds and would often go fox hunting on the Henry Collier farm.) Said Glenn:*

I can still hear Max Meyers yell with glee when my Queenie took over the lead, and we heard her fine choppy voice.

At the Oblong Fox Meet one time Dick Lea asked to sleep in my deep straw-bedded truck. Next morning he woke up with his back killing him. As it turned out, the dog pan was under the straw, and had been right in the middle of his back!

One spring Dick told Harry Brooks, who had caught some fox kits in his chicken yard and wanted to kill them, "No. They never steal close to home." After that fall, though, Harry wouldn't believe anything else Dick said.

That is the way I remember Redmon. It was awfully nice to be a part.

*Glenn H Barr*



# Notes From Days Gone By



Herman Kile; 91st birthday celebration,  
March 1974.

*Herman Kile is Redmon's oldest resident, but his first years were spent near Marshall where he was born in 1883. He came to this region in 1899. As he related:*

I started working for Bill Brummett who owned 600 acres in the area now farmed by Ed English and Lee Newcomer. Brummett had 22 head of mules an' 'bout six, or eight head of horses. But we worked mostly with them mules. He raised a lot of corn, wheat and oats.

There weren't any soybeans 'round here 'til 'bout 1920, '22, '23, or '4. Them Trimble boys raised beans 2, 3, or 4 years 'fore anyone else did. They cut 'em with a binder and threshed 'em like they did wheat for awhile.

Brummett always had about a hundred head of hogs he fed out. Seems he got 'bout 7¢ a pound when he sold 'em. I remember we hauled 'em up to Redmon in wagons one time after a big rain, and had to have four mules hitched to each load to get through them muddy roads. They went to Indianapolis by stock car. We drove 20 head of cattle to Dudley once an' shipped 'em out.

We had to haul hay for them mules from Rowe's on the hill. He always had a lot of hay put up, an' sold it to anyone who needed hay for their livestock.

That house up there . . . years ago, after the doctor'd moved to Paris, lightnin' struck it, an' it burned down.

I went back to Marshall for 'bout a year in 1909, but came back up here an' worked for Mr. Mason (John, Sr., who became my grandfather-in-law.) He owned farm land all 'round here—out east where Clarence, my son, lives now, an' out north behind the old school.

Me an' the hired man shucked corn back there behind that school when they were buildin' that new one. I remember seein' the boys play basketball outdoors in the afternoons.

The yard was scraped down flat for a ball court (on the east side of the west walk there now.) Maurice Arnold was one of the first basketball players, an' them Earl boys. One of 'em wore the number six on his ball shirt. People called him "Six Earl."

Paris came out here one time an' our boys beat 'em. Then we played Paris in there one Saturday afternoon. The boys beat 'em again, so the Paris coach scheduled another game.

Our team beat Paris the third time in a row, an' that coach—you could sure tell he wasn't too happy with his boys when that game was over. He didn't ask to play us again, either.

When we had the fire in 1913 the main street was mud for a long time, 'cause they'd used so much water trying to keep other buildin's from catchin' on fire. Afterward they shipped all them bricks for the new church an' stores by railroad cars, then used steel-wheeled wagons to haul 'em to the buildin' sites. When the ruts finally dried

up the dust was 10-12 inches deep in that street. There was times a feller could hardly get his breath, the air was so full of it.

*Herman will have a good vantage point for the centennial celebration, as his home is now in the old Mason home in the center of town.*



Ola Henn Brinkerhoff; 86th birthday celebration, September 1973.

*Ola Henn Brinkerhoff was born on the farm where Littletons used to live, "just northwest of where brother Fred lives on the home place, then up a little lane." Two of the things she recalled were the "Big Fire" and the bank robbery.*

Well, in 1913 I know pieces of flaming material floated clear over to where my folks lived. They sure were uneasy for awhile that the farm buildings would catch fire, too. And I remember you could see the smoke and flames in town for miles around.

The robbery. . . . the news of it was everywhere that morning. Siebert hitched up Ole Daisy and we went to town to see the robber. Everybody was there that day.

When we arrived, there was already a crowd. And there he lay on the east side of the bank building; blood was pouring out of the right side of his mouth—and I never will forget—his bright, blue eyes were wide open!

*In her younger days one of the few diversions, other than Sunday night church, was the annual Saturday night ice cream suppers put on by the Methodists.*

There was a woman called "Aunt Day" who had rheumatism so bad . . . they always used to say it was caused by her handling too much ice getting things ready for them suppers.

Back in the 1850's all of my grandparents came from Germany. It took the Henns 40 days and nights to come across the ocean in a sail boat.

My Great Uncle Henry was a barber and had a shop in Paris (across from where the Hotel France is now.) He didn't believe in banks and kept his money in his home, so he nailed all the windows closed to keep people from breaking in. I can remember going there as a young girl and seeing the big spike nails he'd used sticking out of the wood-work.

When he bought that block of real estate there he hauled the cash to pay for it in a little wagon up town to the owner. Can't you imagine him going up the street with his wagon full of all them coins?

*The windows in Ola's home are full of beautiful African violets and other flowering plants. Her favorite hours are spent caring for them and visiting with friends.*



Roy H. Standly

*Roy H. Standly was born on the farm where Clarence Kile lives, attended Redmon schools until the 7th grade when his family moved to the farm where Dale Laughead resides. He completed school at McCollum where Maude Daniels was his last teacher.*

*Here are some of his comments about the early years.*

All the roads were dirt then with a track down the middle. The ruts were deep. Whenever wagons met, one of the drivers would have to pull out and let the other one by. Then the Springfield Road was finally graveled to the main entrance of Redmon.

At the west end of town there were two ponds of water that stayed there almost all year round. In winter they'd freeze 10-12 inches deep, and the young people, like myself, would go out there and skate.

There used to be an old ice house behind Jump's Store. It was double-walled and had sawdust in it. I think there was sawdust between the walls, too. A bunch of men would go out there, saw big blocks of that ice, take it up there, and pack it in sawdust. Then, in summer, they'd go unpack it and sell it.

We'd use that to make ice cream all summer. Almost everyone had a big ice cream freezer, but seems like the ice lasted all through hot weather.

The 4th of July was quite a time here. There

were very few cars, so everybody had to stay home. We lived east of the bank building, first house, and across the street, south, was Foltz's General Store and a blacksmith shop. Foltz's sold a lot of fireworks, so the street out front was the center of attention.

Ambrose Cain, the blacksmith, would set an anvil out in the middle of the street, put some powder in the worn out place, and set another anvil on top of that. Then he'd heat a long rod, red hot at the end, and touch off the powder. It would make an awful bang, and blow the top anvil way up in the air.

At night, farmers and everybody lined the street while somebody, adults, I guess, shot fireworks. We had a big time!

At least one year the farmers had a colt show in Redmon. They'd bring in colts to be judged and give prizes for the best. It was a day of celebration. The band, on a big platform, would play, and there were other attractions.

Then in the afternoon everybody walked out to a baseball diamond in a pasture east of Owen Baker's house, and we had a big ball game. Redmon had a ball team and imported a good pitcher and catcher, so of course they won most of the games.

*Roy's main interests now are his home and garden. There's still never a weed allowed to grow among his prize vegetables or flowers.*



Oscar McDaniel and his wife, Cassie.

*Almost all of Oscar McDaniel's 78 years have been spent in Redmon, where, for 49 of those years, he's been a carpenter. When he was 14 he started working in Essinger's Store. He said:*

Vern Essinger ran the huckster wagon through the country two or three times a week. Then 'bout once a week his brother Lidge would peddle coal oil to the farmers. He drove an old wagon with a tank on it . . . called it the oil wagon.

People'd trade in chickens an' eggs for their groceries an' supplies. On Saturdays we'd coop up them chickens an' take 'em to the depot. Then we'd send 'em off express to the market.

Old man Essinger sold them "Pickadory" cigars, an' one time I remember I got one an' smoked it. It wasn't long 'fore I got sicker 'n a dog.

*About the older days, Oscar remarked:*

I've seen the time farmers couldn't get a wagon load of corn through the Springfield Road out here, over the RR crossing in front of my home. Even after cars came along the roads were bad. Cleoh Parker got stuck out there one night, so I got a lantern an' went out an' helped her out. When she took off, she threw mud all over me an' just kept goin'. If she'd stopped, she'd a been stuck again.

Ralph Baum finally hauled the gravel to rock this road. Way back when Willis Brinkerhoff was mayor, he wanted to pave the roads in Redmon. Everybody thought he was crazy.

I worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad in 1917 when they took up them little rails. Each weighed 56 pounds a foot, an' I don't know how long they were. I just know it took four good men on each end to lift 'em so we could throw 'em onto the flatcars to be hauled away.

We relaid the main line from Farrington on the east end, to Decatur on the west. The new rails weighed 90 pounds a running foot and were 33 feet long. But by then they had a crane to lift 'em onto the road bed.

*Once, when a boy, Oscar was walking home late at night past the bank and noticed a lamp had been sooted up badly and would probably cause a fire if not reported. Said he:*

I was afraid to walk up on Mr. Snoddy's porch late at night, 'cause the banking business had its scary faults anyway. Yet I knew I had to, 'cause I knew what would happen if I didn't tell someone an' let that lamp go on sootin' things up. I could see through the window sooty webs was hangin' from the ceilin' an' walls, an' the flue was all black . . .

But I made sure he heard me on the porch 'fore I knocked on the door. He didn't know what what to expect, so yelled out the bedroom window to me. When I told him what I wanted, he couldn't thank me enough.

*Today Oscar's life is centered around his family, as he and his wife, Cassie, will willingly relate. On occasion, however, hog houses are still built in the back yard.*



Marie Meyers.

*Marie M. Meyers was born in the old Exline house, in the same location she now lives. Her education came from Redmon schools, and her first teacher was Della Conklin.*

*Marie's father, Sid Meyers, used to tell her about walking to classes in the old Arbogast School and of a family who always brought rabbit meat for lunch in their school buckets. According to him, she said:*

The family consumed 27 rabbits a day. That took a lot of trappin' an' huntin'.

*When asked about recreation, she remarked:*

I can remember doing more things in the winter time than the summer, 'cause we were always busy working in warm weather. Everyone had gardens. And I used to have to drive the horses on the pulley to get the hay in the loft. Then, before they had hikers like they have today, I drove the horses on the old hikers when Dad was shucking corn.

But we'd take picnics out to Embarrass, or Art Trimble's woods, and have weiner roasts out there.

In winter there was a pond back west of Edith Lamb's that froze over, or we used to skate on the creek (from over by Joe Ingram's today, clear around to where Fred Henn's fields are.) We'd build a bonfire out at the side of the creek and roast marshmallows, potatoes, or eggs—anything we could get.

One time the creek was extra good skating 'cause the water had come up over the fences and

frozen, so we could skate all over out there. A young man used to skate with us all the time—I won't mention his name—but he weighed about 300 pounds. Well, one day he fell and cracked the ice. We were all mad about that for a long time, 'cause it ruined the ice for the rest of the winter. When we hit that crack with our skates it'd throw us.

Another thing we did, that we weren't supposed to do, was slide down the elevator driveway on our sleds. We come near gettin' killed at times when a car would go by just as we came down.

In the 20's Dad, Charlie Jump, Will Henn and Bud Standly were on a committee to arrange for Chautauqua meetings to be held in town. They put up a big tent on the lot south, across the street from my home. The people who put them on would come and stay a week, and the ones from the audience were invited to join in the singing, or to take part in the acts they put on. Guess you could call it a sort of variety show. The last one was in a tent at the school yard, about 1930.

Later on the Lyceum came to town and had lectures for a week in the M. L. Church. They were more of a religious group and did the complete program. We just listened and watched, maybe sometimes even learned a little.

*Marie continues to raise a garden, bakes fancy cakes for parties, and has developed the hobby of painting china*

A special salute to the Senior Citizens of Redmon.

There are a few who have been in and around the town for at least three-quarters of a century—although one, or two might be the last to admit it. Yet this author feels it's a mark of accomplishment; something to be extremely proud of. For they have played—and continue to be—a vital part in Redmon's heritage.

The preceding anecdotes were but a few of the memorable times related to the committee, but perhaps they'll provide a glimpse of the past for the younger generations and some interesting moments for others.



Harry and Lottie Biggs, in their yard.



Edith Lamb outside her home.



Maggie Ashley, in the home of her daughter, Mrs.  
Doug Grant.



Vineta and Carl Ogden, Sr.

# VI

## TODAY'S REDMON

*"Every road has two ends—  
at one end the farm,  
at the other end the country town.  
Each depends on the other,  
and both prosper together.*

*When the broad-minded merchants  
and the progressive farmers work together  
for the good of the community,  
Then you have a community worth living in."*

(Reprinted by permission of Prairie Farmer Publications)

# The Way It Is

By the time Redmon was an established town, the flocks of passenger pigeons that once shut out the sun for days at a time had disappeared, fireflies no longer scared the inhabitants, and civilization of that period—in the form of railroads, state roads, and sprouting villages—had advanced across the prairie.

Many of the homes in the early settlements were built by well-to-do farmers of the regions who wished to be nearer the more modern comforts and institutions afforded by the towns. So it is with Redmon.

All one need do is look at the tax lists of a century ago to see how many of the people, names you should be well acquainted with by now, had their homes in this village, but were designated as farmers. Times haven't really changed. How many of today's residents do you know who live in a town for its added conveniences?

Over the years a number of changes have been made in this community. Hard roads and sidewalks were finally built throughout the town, but records, we have seen, failed to relate the dates. Some people recall that in 1930 the place was wired for electricity. Then in '47 a fire siren was installed, and since that time the area has been part of the Paris Fire District and, as

such, has its own equipment, operated by a volunteer department.

Twenty-one years later some of the surrounding land was annexed. The village property now incorporates a little more than the original area of 1872—part of the vacated sections, plus another portion south of the old Springfield Road.

Although it took almost a decade for the plan to reach completion, a city water system had been installed and was in operation by 1969. In another two years natural gas had been provided for the use of the village dwellers.

And who knows? Perhaps in another hundred years Redmon will really have grown into that "bigger, better, and more prosperous" town imagined back in 1913.

But then, will it still have the same rural atmosphere? Like the one we know where farmers can get together over a cup of coffee, joke about their problems and recall happier moments and better times? Where public-spirited women gather to make holiday favors for the people in rest homes, or have a bazaar with the proceeds going to help pay for that new 4-H building? And the children—I wouldn't want mine growing up in any other type of community on earth. Would you?



Jean Newcomer and Patsy Chesrown comparing notes on our history.



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Jean Newcomer and Paisy Chesrown comparing notes on our history.



The Ogden's home; once the Smith Hotel.



This place, that once belonged to Rhoda Brinkerhoff, is now the home of Mrs. Lee Allen Brinkerhoff.



Home of Oscar and Cassie McDaniel; probably oldest house in town.



Alva Harris and roofing crew on top of his and Gladys' house. It used to be the home of the Ziegler family.



Wright-Way Laundry.



The house of Gene and Peggy McIntosh; where his grandparents, Walter and Maggie Wilson, used to live.



Ruth Harrison's home; once the place of Mrs. Andrew Jump.



C. L. Dunn now lives in this house, once owned by Willis Brinkerhoff.



PO and old barber shop. Pictured: Raymond Arnold, Clarence Schad, and Spec Eads.



United Methodist Church



North Equipment Company, on old Springfield Road cut-off.



Lester's Market and Cafe



Buck Township Garage.



Town Board; front - Stanley McCarty, Mike Cassidy, Mayor Lester Thomas, and Lewis "Bill" Newman. Back - Mike Brannick, Wayne Wright, Roy Tyler, and Steve Lankster.



English Elevator Company's grain complex

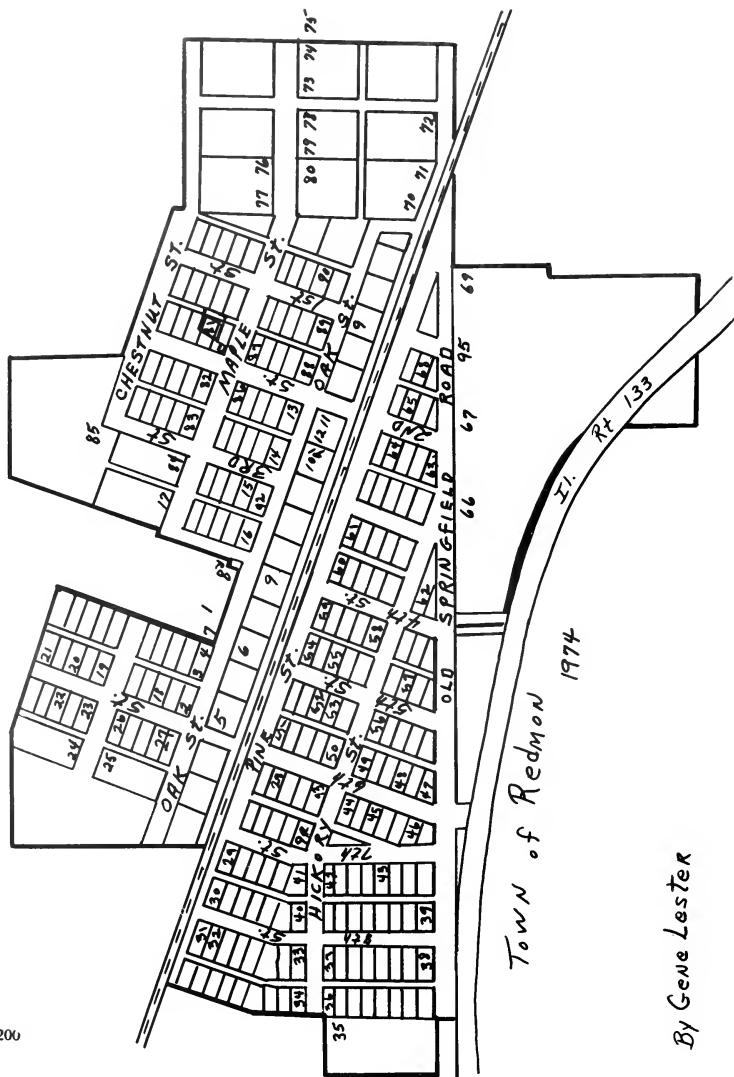


Aerial view of town, 1973.



Present Honor Roll, erected in 1969

In Memory of Mother and Father, Grace and Walter Jones  
by Ruth Grace and Robin Glover



# LIST OF INHABITANTS – 1974

1	Herman Kile	33	Eugene Carrington	65	Roy Standly
2	United Methodist Church	34	Virgil Jones	66	Roy Hanks
3	Wright-Way Laundry	35	Steven Lankster	67	Homer Smittkamp
4	US Post Office	36	Redmon Waterworks	68	Billy Bayes
5	Ingram's Garage	37	Charles Matthews	69	Wayne Wright
6	Redmon Soil Service (inactive)	38	Earl Ray	70	Lawson Harrison
7	General Telephone Company	39	North Equipment Company	71	Oscar McDaniel
8	Redmon Fire Department	40	Alva Harris	72	Donald Towell
9	English Grain Company	41	Michael Cassidy	73	Carey White
10	Holiness Church	42	Venda "Doug" Grant	74	-----
11	Lester's Market & Cafe	43	Floyd Hamilton	75	Samuel Miller
12	Buck Town House	44	Eugene McIntosh	76	Owen Baker
13	James Trine	45	Roy Tyler	77	Lewis Boyer
14	Carl Ogden, Sr.	46	Virgil Simmons	78	Ola Brinkerhoff
15	John Watters	47	Robert Horsley	79	Guy Guyer
16	Sammy Chowning	48	Michael Brannick	80	Doris Pierce
17	Redmon Christian Church	49	Bessie Luttrell	81	Carter's Shelter Care Home
18	Harold Jump	50	Jack Milam	82	Jackie Turner
19	Ruth Harrison	51	Michael Weger	83	Carroll L. Dunn
20	Ira Boyer	52	G. L. "Spec" Eads	84	Dorothy Brinkerhoff
21	Louis "Bill" Newman	53	James Finnermore Graham	85	Clarence Schad
22	James Shannon, Jr.	54	Gary Ingram	86	John Wood
23	James Shannon, Sr.	55	Michael Hiatt	87	F. E. "Gene" Lester
24	Willis "Bill" Gifford	56	Irma Biggs	88	Lillian Gifford
25	Muriel Gifford	57	Thomas Eads	89	Clarence Flenner
26	Lester Thomas	58	Raymond Arnold	90	Buck Township Garage
27	Marie Meyers	59	William Johnson	91	Michael Eads
28	Eugene Quillen	60	Mary Brannick	92	Carolyn Combs
29	Standley McCarty	61	Mary's Beauty Shop	93	Harry Biggs
30	Walter Lynn Eads	62	Frank Finley	94	Terry Weinkler
31	Edith Lamb	63	Della Foreman	95	Jack Webster
32	Wayne Tomaw	64	Patty Brannick		

# VII

# AGRICULTURE

(with G. H. Barr)

## The Way It Was

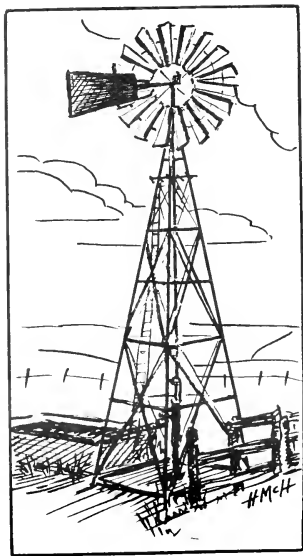
### ON THE FARM

by Jim White

How brightly through the mist of years  
My quiet country home appears.  
My father, busy all the day  
In plowing corn, or raking hay.  
My mother moving with delight  
Among the milk pans, silver bright.  
We children, just from school set free,  
Filling the garden with our glee,  
The blood of life was flowing warm  
When I was living on the farm.

I hear the sweet church-going bell  
As o'er the fields its music fell.  
I see the country neighbors round,  
Gathering beneath the pleasant sound.  
They stop awhile beside the door  
To talk their homely matters o'er;  
The springing corn, the ripening grain,  
And "How we need a little rain."  
"A little sun would do no harm."  
"We want good weather for the farm."

When Autumn came, what joy to see—  
The gathering of the husking bee,  
To hear the voices, keeping tune,  
Of girls and boys beneath the moon.  
To mark the golden corn ears, bright;  
More golden in the yellow light.  
Since I have learned the ways of men,  
I often turn to these again,  
And feel life wore its brightest charm  
When I was living on the farm.





## THRESHING SMALL GRAIN

After the wooden cradle that was used to mow the grain, came the mechanical binder. It cut the stalks and formed bundles tied with twine. Two of these bundles were then braced against each

other and surrounded by eight more, leaning in to form a shock. One or two bundles were bent and placed on top. This was called "capping," and helped prevent weather damage to those underneath.



Cutting and binding wheat on Will Roll's farm, 1926.

After the grain had a chance to dry the shocks were loaded onto racks by a man known as the "pitcher," who used a 3-tonged fork to toss the bundles through the air to a man waiting on the rack. The load of wheat, or other grain was then hauled to the thresher.

The first steam engines didn't have traction, so were moved from farm to farm with horses. Later, power was furnished by kerosene-run tractors, but coal continued to be used to heat the boilers for the steamers. They separated the grain

from the straw; wheat, oats, or rye was dumped into a nearby wagon, and the straw was blown into a stack.

Around Redmon most engines and separators were owned by one, or two operators. Some owners were Charles Milam, James Acord, Ellis Brill, Jesse Sudduth, Mint Blair, Mike Barr, Edgar and Barr Dick. Another threshing crew consisted of 12 stockholders; 10 farmers owned the separator. R. E. and Roy Standly bought the "tractor," or engine that ran the thresher. They were known as the Redmon Threshing Company.

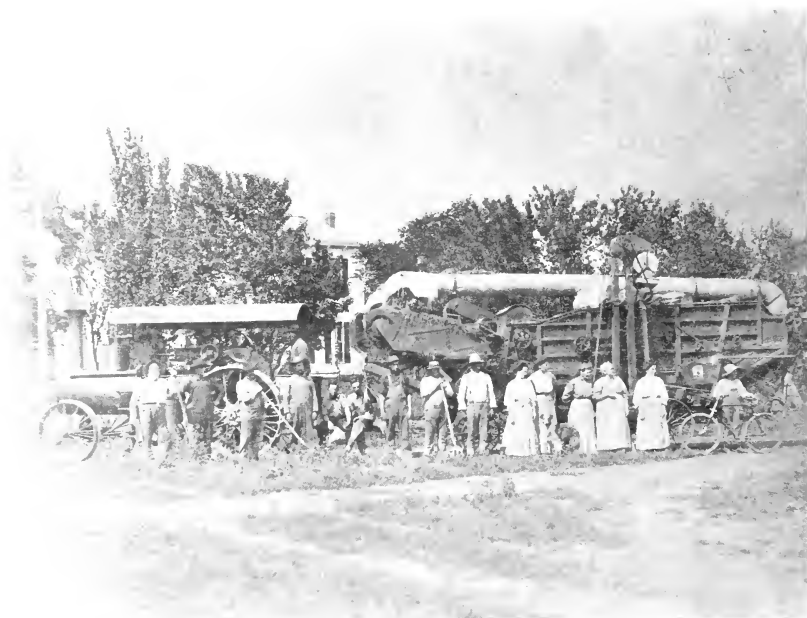


Cutting and shocking wheat, 1926. Pictured: Don and Bruce Fulwider, Turner Arnold, and Harry on seat of binder; Roll farm.

In Memory of Grandmother and Grandfather, Will and Mary Jones  
by Ruth Grace and Robin Glover

Said Roy, "Uncle Charlie Jump was the farthest east to have a share in it, and Oscar Foltz was the farthest west. Most of the time we just

threshed out our own farms, but several times, when some other machine broke down, we'd help thresh out that run."



Threshing's over. Acord's machine folded up and ready to move on. Pictured: John P. Persho, Jim Hamlin, ———, Oscar Leetch, Charles Perisho, "Sport" White, ———, Wesley McCort, Lincoln Conley, Isaac Leetch, Mary Persho, Carrie Clark, Mrs. Frank Clark, Mrs. John P. Persho, Kate Perisho, Willis Clark with bicycle, and Jim Acord on seat of steam engine. This is now the home of John Delap. (1904.)

Farm owners often worked together on these runs to have enough equipment (racks, wagons, horses) and labor. One group also devised basket-rack wagons that took only one man to handle and load the grain. Runs were generally changed each season, with the last farm harvested one year, first in line the next time.

Meals for the crew were always provided by the host farmer, who sometimes had to serve supper and breakfast to the owners of the rig when they were from some other area. The hot, tiresome job of carrying water to the thirsty laborers usually fell to the youngsters who were too little to manage other jobs.

## CORN

Open pollinated corn (no hybrids in the early days) would produce 25 to 40 bushels per acre, and on a good day one man could husk and scoop 80 to 100 bushels.

The ears of corn were "husked," or picked by

hand, then thrown into a wagon, with "bang boards" on one side to keep the ears from being thrown overboard.

Mechanical hikers finally came into use and saved a lot of time, but the real energy-saver was the picker.



Shuckin' corn.

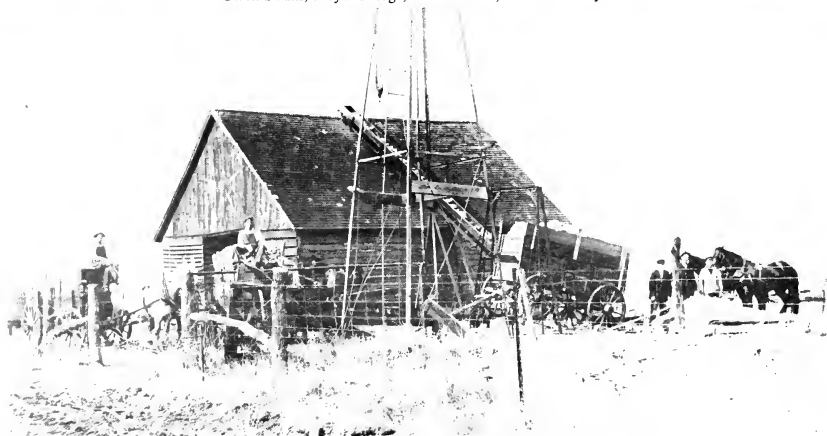


Mule teams.

In Honor of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Ogden, Jr.  
by Mr. and Mrs. Michael Eads



Corn harvest, 1916. Pictured: Baby Ohmer, Roy Jones, Edith Weaver, Ora Mullen, Martha Jones, Walter Weaver, Owen Strain, Floyd George, Oscar Martin, and Eldon Key.



Corn harvest; haying, 1910. Pictured: Ted Long, Charles Fox, W. R. Fox, Bus Woodruff, and Lem McGlone.

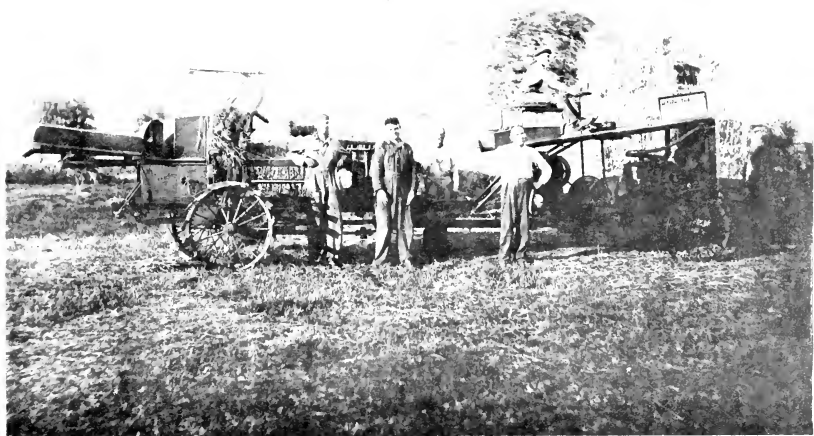
## HAY

When in full bloom clover, or timothy hay was mowed and left to dry for a few days before it was raked into windrows, then hauled on racks to the barn loft, or a waiting baler. (No pick-up apparatus on those first balers!) Bales weighed 90 to 100 pounds each.

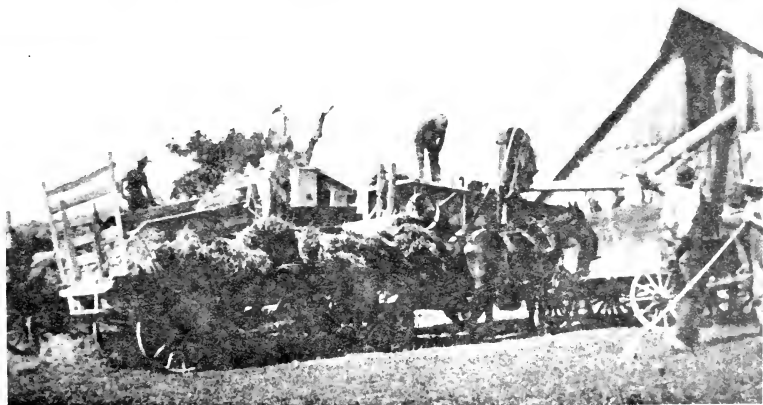
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On the Heider Stephenson farm it was cut with a binder, then shocked. Later the shocks were loaded on racks and taken to the barn, or baled. Other farmers merely stacked their hay and left it in the pasture for cattle to freedom at their leisure.

In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Herron  
by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Herron



Ready to bale hay. Pictured: Oscar McDaniel, Ed Walls, Willie Clark, Charlie Barr, and Glenn Barr on seat of engine.



Isaac Barr and crew threshing at Milburns, about 1928.

In Memory of the Reverend Mrs. Alma Elliott  
by relatives and friends



Harry Fulwider plowing for Isaac Barr, 1908, 3-horse hitch.



Plowing with 6-horse hitch.



Ralph Manning plowing with 5-horse hitch; on Conley farm.

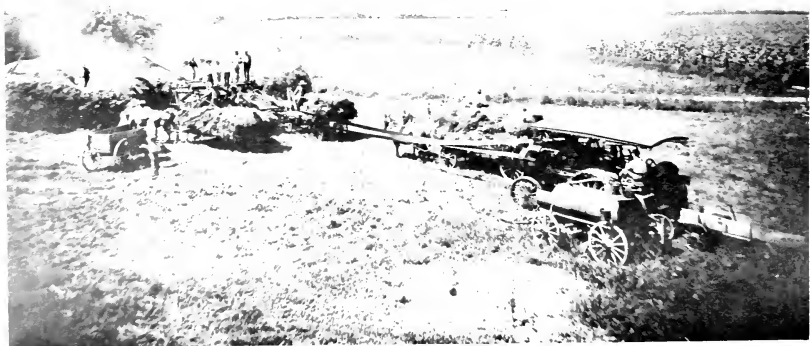


Getting the teams ready for work. Pictured, center: Lon and Irene Welsh. At right: Tune Everly. about 1907

Congratulations to Redmon  
In Honor of the Pioneers who braved the prairies to settle our community  
from the Historical Committee

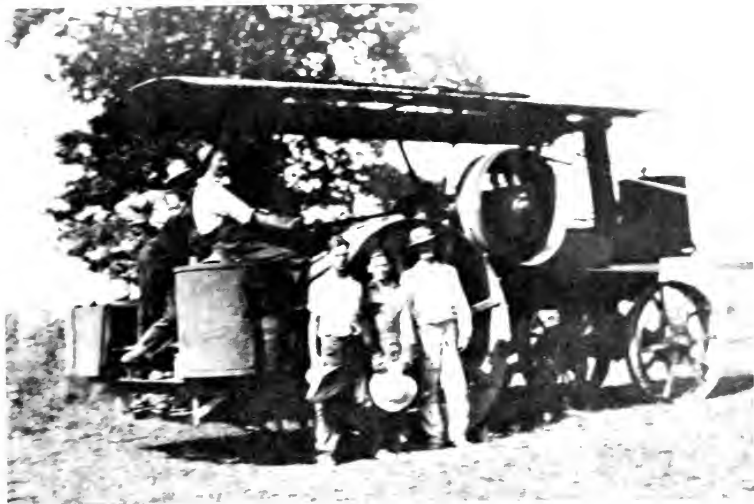


A load of bundles for thrasher. Pictured: — Sparks, Harry Fulwider, Walter Clark, Leonard Randolph, Bill Hardy, Eddie Graham, Isaac Barr, Alva Eskew, and — Daugherty. Standing: Lidge Milburn, and Charlie Barr.



Threshing set-up





Bib Cline at controls of his steam engine, about 1928. Others are: Tony Osepppek, William and Elijah S. Milburn, and unknown on back of engine.



"Threshing broom corn." R. E. Standly leaning against engine.

In Memory of our Father, Elwyn "Bill" Metcalf  
by Nancy Buckles and William Metcalf



Combining beans; December 1925. (Roll Farm.)



Zack Drake's Shorthorn calf, 1905-06.



Barn on Colwell farm—now owned by Ed English.



Ferguson's sawmill, early 1900's.



Tommy Lauher's combine and M-M tractor, about 1930.

In Memory of Mrs. Betty Jane McDaniel



Field of sorghum, just harvested. Sold for \$14 per ton in early 1900's.  
(Note squash on hood of car.)

Throughout the years this rural community has remained a prosperous region, but the past years have seen many changes. Today teen-agers race down asphalt-covered country roads in sports cars with stick shifts, or on motorcycles, and saddle horses instead of work horses now graze our green pastures.

Farmers pull five, six, or even seven bottom, all-steel plows on rubber tires with powerful gasoline, or diesel-motored tractors. Several people—men, women, teen-agers—drive them, sitting in air-conditioned, or heated cabs while listening to radios.

The threshing crews of the early 1900's are gone. In their place we see \$25,000, or \$30,000 self-propelled combines, with transferable corn heads, that are used to harvest *all* types of grain; soybeans, corn, wheat, oats, and even barley and maze.

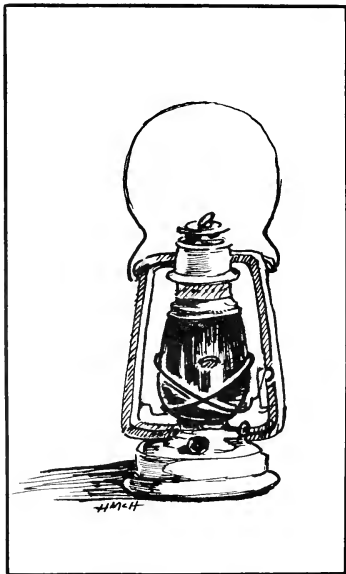
Some farmers practice minimum tillage, using chisel plows, to field cultivators to rip open the soil instead of turning it by conventional means. Higher yielding hybrids and practically disease-resistant grains are produced.

Fertilizers are used, rather than crop rotation, to raise record yields. Weeds and problem causing insects are partially controlled by the use of herbicides and pesticides, often applied by planes or helicopters.

To the early settlers these methods and improvements would be unimaginable. Yet farming is still a gamble. In 1970 a blight hit many corn fields, and production in some areas was drastically reduced. This year the weather has been too wet to get much of the seed in the ground by the usual planting deadline. Even if fall is late

in arriving, as it was in '27, only part of a crop will be harvested in many parts of the country.

But to people who enjoy working with the soil and living in a rural atmosphere it's just one more detour in the road ahead.



We've tried to provide a brief glimpse of Redmon's heritage in this history and only wish others before us had done the same. Our apologies to those who were missed, or listed incorrectly, but time has made a more thorough search impossible.

Many of the old photographs in this book are from the collection of Horace Fulwider, and we're indebted to his son, Harry, for permitting us to use them. Also our deepest gratitude goes to the people who sorted through family archives for other pictures and jostled memories for much of the pertinent data in our story.

My personal thanks to Shirley Eldredge, Rusty Sprouls, and the personnel in the County Clerk's and Circuit Clerk's offices for their patient assistance in researching the old records of Edgar County.

Without everyone's cooperation our committee would've accomplished little.

When we undertook this task, few of us had dealt in this line of work. After reading this book, some may feel we should produce another one—about our experiences in preparing this material. "Experience," Oscar Wilde, the poet, once said, "is the name everyone gives to his mistakes."

Please forgive ours; they weren't intentional.

*A Joyce Brown and  
The Historical Committee*

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# Thank You



Here Mrs. Joyce Brown is deep in thought with several ideas, a gob of material to unscramble and then blend all together.



You may relax and smile now, Joyce, while we say "Thanks a million," and "God bless you."

*You have just looked through a book representing months of diligent, careful effort. Very few can appreciate all that goes into the collecting, sorting, arranging, writing, and editing of a book like this.*

*We of the Steering Committee just had to use this page to express our satisfaction and appreciation for an assignment well done.*

*And we recommend to you a volume of such quality as will instruct and delight those who open and read it for the next 100 years.*

*Thanks, Joyce, for a great job!*











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